FBIS DAILY REPORT

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NEPSZABADSAG SURVEYS 1983 BLOC ECONOMIC PICTURE

LD101757 Budapest MTI in English 1706 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Budapest, March 10 (MTI) -- Saturday's NEPSZABADSAG evaluates the economic results of the socialist countries in 1983.

The commentator states that the socialist countries "did well last year. 1983 was an outstanding year of the 11th Five-Year Plan period for the Soviet Union. In the Soviet Union national income surpassed that in the previous year by 3.1 per cent...agricultural output by six per cent. Productivity increased in all spheres of the economy faster that the planned three per cent."

Both Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria could report about a similar growth. It is a welcome fact that last year the national income increased in Poland -- for the first time in four years." [quotation mark as received] In the German Democratic Republic national income exceeded the 1982 level by 4.3 per cent. The GDR has for the first time increased production while she used less material and energy.

"It is also a welcome fact that last year in most socialist countries the value of exports to capitalist countries exceeded that of import from there. Put together the European socialist countries had a trade surplus in their dealings with capitalist countries. This is an accomplishment even if we consider that the surplus was due to retrenchment certain socialist countries exercised on imports to consolidate their market position rather than expansion of their export to capitalist markets."

Further efforts made to improve and modernize the system of economic management contributed to the results of the socialist countries.

"On [word indistinct] the intensive phase of economic development the socialist countries are realizing that the increasing requirements demand the evolution of new methods both in production and the management of both production and the economy as a whole."

USSR, PPR NAVAL SHIPS ON FRIENDSHIP VISIT TO GDR

AU011037 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 29 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Rostock (ADN) -- Ships of the Baltic Fleet of the USSR and the Polish navies called at the naval base of the Kotte unit of the People's Navy on Tuesday on a friendship visit during the "Week of Comradeship-in-Arms". Comrades-in-Arms from the GDR naval forces, as well as residents from neighboring villages and guests from partner cities of the ships of the People's Navy, cordially welcomed the comrades-in-arms.

ROMANIAN, CSSR PAPERS ON MILITARY BUDGETS FREEZE

Caplescu in SCINTEIA

AU091531 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 7 Mar 84 p 6

[Romulus Caplescu article: "Freezing and Reducing Military Expenditures -- a Basic Requirement for Halting the Arms Race and for the Peoples' Socioeconomic Development"]

[Text] "Freezing military expenditures and proceeding to reduce them constitutes a requirement both for lessening the arms race and war preparations and for creating conditions needed to surmount the world crisis and to relaunch socioeconomic activity," Nicolae Ceausescu has said.

The "proposal made by the Warsaw Pact Member-Countries to the NATO Member-Countries on Negotiations Regarding the Freezing and Reduction of Military Expenditures," a document forwarded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, on behalf of the Warsaw Pact member-countries, to the diplomatic representatives of the NATO member-countries, was published yesterday. From the very beginning it must be stressed that this document is of particular importance under current circumstances when the international situation is characterized by serious tension, especially owing to the deployment in Europe of the new nuclear missiles, a fact that increases the risk of a military conflict with incalculable consequences. Thus, one can state that this document stresses the spirit of responsibility shown by the socialist countries toward the fate of peace and that it goes down as a constructive and realistic action able to contribute to halting the constant escalation of the arms race, to preventing the danger of war and to establishing an atmosphere of security, trust, and detente on our continent and throughout the world.

As is known, by untiringly struggling to ensure the necessary conditions for a new society on our fatherland's soil and, at the same time, to safeguard the interests of peace and progress of all peoples, Socialist Romania and President Nicolae Ceausescu have set forth halting the arms race and achieving disarmament as one of the basic programmatic goals of the overall international activity by the party and state and have included in this vast and comprehensive program of action first and foremost the freezing and cutting back of military budgets.

The attention paid to this question by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and by Socialist Romania proceeds from the conviction that freezing and cutting back on military budgets would constitute a first realistic and accessible step and one of the main links in unleashing the process of disarmament.

It is in this spirit that Socialist Romania has perseveringly been active in the international arena, within international bodies, the United Nations, at the Geneva disarmament conference, and in various other bodies with a view to adopting measures aimed at cutting back and freezing military budgets. It was upon our country's initiative that the UN session last year -- including the two special sessions devoted to disarmament -- adopted documents that recognize the importance and need to proceed toward reducing military expenditures. The last UN session adopted a resolution, initiated by Romania, by consensus calling upon all countries, particularly upon the most heavily armed countries, to cooperate constructively to achieve international agreements on freezing and cutting back or limiting military expenditures. At the same time, within the overall proposals formulated by Romania at the current Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, an important place is held by the proposal aimed at freezing the military expenditures of the countries participating in the conference at the 1984 level until an agreement on their reduction is reached.

At the same time, linking its principled position with practical action, our country has decided, as is known, to maintain the 1982 level in its 1985 military expenditures -- a measure that has been added to cutting back on military expenditures in preceding years

The importance of measures aimed at freezing and reducing military expenditures is clearly stressed and expressed anew in the proposals forwarded now by the Warsaw Pact member-countries to the NATO member-countries. The Warsaw Pact member-countries' declarations issued last year in Prague and Moscow are thus stressed and given concrete shape, declarations that included proposals on beginning negotiations between member-countries of the two military alliances with a view to freezing military expenditures and proceeding to later reducing them.

The Warsaw Pact socialist member-countries have in a practical manner formulated concrete proposals now able to effectively permit the achievement of mutually acceptable agreements. Within this context one should mention the measures which mainly aim at carrying out -- on the basis of mutual example -- a single, limited, symbolic reduction of the military budgets of the member-countries of the two alliances that should be followed by the freezing of those budgets for a period of some 3 years; a single reduction -- as a first step -- of the military budgets of the countries possessing nuclear weapons and members of the two military alliances by a total sum that has been agreed upon; the reduction of the military budgets of the countries belonging to the two alliances in concert with achieving concrete disarmament measures that could be worked out during the various disarmament negotiations; and at jointly setting the maximum ceilings of military budgets below existing levels.

It goes without saying that the implementation of these proposals would have most positive effects at various levels. The importance of cutting back on military expenditures, as a first step toward initiating the disarmament process, follows from the huge danger the arms race poses for the fate of civilization itself. In initiating a genuine disarmament process, one must naturally begin with simple measures and proceed toward the most complex ones; were one to view the freezing and reduction of military budgets as the simplest, direct, and most effective measure on the road to disarmament, this would mean, so to say, to start from the beginning, and thus the measures proposed by the socialist countries represent a minimum acceptable for all states.

Moreover, the adoption of the proposed measures would represent a step toward strengthening trust among countries and would contribute to reducing international tension, thus opening the road for other measures in the direction of detente and security on our continent and throughout the world. Under the current conditions of reduced and sharpened international dialogue, the acceptance of the proposal forwarded would surely contribute to brightening the general political atmosphere, to resuming and developing the East-West dialogue, and to opening up the road to new negotiations on the most pressing problems.

At the same time, freezing and reducing military expenditures would have most favorable effects on the socioeconomic development of all countries. It is known that currently the huge sums of money spent for armaments -- some $800 billion yearly -- are a heavy burden for all peoples in the world, thus causing great disruptions in the socio-economic development of all countries, and are one of the main factors in maintaining the world economic crisis. As the published document shows, however, through cutting back on military expenditures, primarily by the nuclear powers and other heavily armed countries, important sums of money would be saved to be used for the needs of the respective countries and actually for the needs of all countries, including the developing countries; this would also contribute to a great extent to resolving the pressing problems of the world economy as a whole.

There are many such examples that stress the importance of the measures proposed in the document forwarded by Romania on behalf of the Warsaw Pact countries. Stressing that they are ready to discuss other proposals as well, the Warsaw Pact countries believe that the negotiations on freezing and cutting back on military expenditures, with the direct participation of all member-countries of the two alliances, must begin as soon as possible, and they propose that for this purpose prior consultations should take place to establish jointly the purpose, date, and place of the negotiations and the level at which they should be held.

Today more than ever it is necessary for decisionmakers of states and governments to show a sense of responsibility and political willingness so as to halt the dangerous trend of events as soon as possible, to stop the escalation of the arms race and military expenditures without any delay, and to safeguard peace and international security. As Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, party secretary general and president of the republic, has repeatedly stressed, as far as Romania is concerned, it is firmly determined to constantly take energetic action in the future, too, to achieve the aspirations for the peaceful development of the Romanian people and of all peoples on the globe and to build a better and more just world, without weapons and wars, a world of trust, understanding, a fruitful cooperation among nations.

Kubin in RUDE PRAVO

AU091621 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 7 Mar 84 p 7

[Miroslov Kubin commentary: "To Ease the Dangerous Burden"]

[Text] The governments of NATO countries have been presented with a new proposal of the Warsaw Pact member-states, with a proposal which represents a realistic step toward easing tension, promoting confidence, improving the political atmosphere, and halting the arms race. It is a proposal suggesting talks on refraining from increasing and on reducing military expenditures which, as the proposal states, are becoming an increasingly heavy burden that slows down nations' economic and social progress.

"Reduction of military expenditures -- especially by all states possessing nuclear weapons and by other states important from the military viewpoint -- would effectively contribute to halting feverish armament and to effecting a transition to disarmament. The resources thus set free could be used for the needs of social and economic development, including the developing countries."

In the last few years, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have submitted a whole set of proposals for halting the arms race and thus freeing mankind from this burden as well as from the specter that goes hand in hand with it -- the danger of nuclear war. These include, for example, the proposal for a bilateral freeze in American and Soviet nuclear weapons; the proposed ban against militarizing outer space; the agreement, proposed some time ago, on a complete and general ban against testing nuclear weapons; and well as the quite recent proposal of a complete and general ban against using, developing, and producing chemical weapons. But the activity of the Soviet Union has not been confined to advancing proposals; by setting an example, it has itself demonstrated its good will to embark on the proposed path. The world public expresses its appreciation for the Soviet commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and, last but not least, for its announcement that the defense expenditures of the USSR in 1984 will be the same as 4 years ago.

The United States, on the other hand, evidently pursues a quite different policy.

American militarists and the military-industrial complex, whose most ardent present agitator is President Reagan, are pushing through ever new astronomical sums for the development and production of new types of weapons, regardless of the fact that this makes it necessary to strike out from the state budget allocations for, above all, social purposes, culture, and aid to developing countries. Neither does the Reagan administration have any regard for the fact that millions of Americans have plunged below the poverty line. In campaigning for the approval of high military expenditures, President Reagan tries to establish a favorable atmosphere in Congress not merely by talking of the "Soviet menace" and the need for "credible deterrence." He does not even shy away from staging anti-Soviet provocations, as is illustrated by the abuse last year of a South Korean airliner for espionage purposes.

The aggravation of the already dangerous tension comes in handy to American arms manufacturers and militarists, as it permits them to come up with increasingly monstrous ideas on how to initiate ever new rounds of the arms race and obtain state orders for new, even more costly systems of nuclear and conventional weapons. Militaristic circles have now succeeded in pushing through intensive armament for Reagan's celebrated vision of "star wars." They are developing and have even begun to produce and test antisatellite and antiballistic missile weapons. They are also studying the possibilities of nuclear war in outer space. The U.S. ruling circles consider no sum of their taxpayers' money too high for their "all-encompassing strategic program" for the eighties, which envisages a "rearmament of America" and the attainment of military supremacy over the Soviet Union. Interested in this feverish armament are monopolies involved in arms production, which is for them the most profitable business. Even according to American sources, profits from the arms race exceed up to four times those from production for civil purposes. It is thus self-evident that the military-industrial complex is eminently interested in escalating tension and stepping up the arms race.

Whereas the Soviet Union presses for a reduction in military expenditures, the United States forces even its NATO allies to increase their military budgets. It also imposes its weapons systems on them. There exists, for example, a well-known NATO resolution recommending that the European member-states of the alliance increase their military budgets at an annual rate of at least 3 percent. The United States itself sets the pace -- the average annual growth rate of the incumbent U.S. Administration's military budgets is 12-14 percent. In the years 1984-1988, the credits of the U.S. Department of Defense are planned to total some $1,800 billion. This year alone they will amount to $280 billion and in 1988 to as much as $425 billion.

Recently, leading American representatives could be heard making peace-loving pronouncements. Until now, however, they have not buttressed them with a single positive example. On the contrary, the astronomical sums earmarked for armament suggest anything but peace-loving designs, and they certainly prompt vigilance and not trust in the peace-loving intentions of those who in actual practice implement a policy of increasingly intensive pursuit of military-strategic supremacy over socialist countries.

"The Soviet Union has always been in favor of seeking bilaterally acceptable practical solutions to concrete problems for the benefit of both countries, for the benefit of peace. And such problems are not few in number. The U.S. Government has many opportunities to prove its love for peace with deeds," Comrade Chernenko said in his speech in Moscow on 2 March. One such realistic opportunity is now being offered to it and to other NATO member-states by the proposal of the Warsaw Pact countries to hold talks on refraining from increasing and on reducing military budgets. This would be a step that would gradually free mankind not only from the heavy burden of armament, but from the specter of a threatening nuclear war.

[Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 7 March on page 7 carries a 700-word Rudolf Nittmann commentary entitled "Offer to Negotiate." The commentary reviews individual provisions of the Warsaw Pact military spending proposal, dwells on the cost of the arms race, and notes the positive impact which NATO's acceptance of the proposal would have on international security as well as on economic and social development. The commentary also criticizes as "an attempt to avoid a direct and positive reply" the reaction of those Western press agencies and NATO circles which have dismissed the Warsaw Pact proposal as "containing nothing new" and "merely declarative."]

GDR CDE ENVOY ASKS FOR PACT PROPOSALS DISCUSSION

LD091544 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1449 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Stockholm, 9 Mar (ADN) -- On Friday the GDR representative at the Stockholm conference called on the NATO states to finally prove their oft-proclaimed willingness for dialogue and to show readiness for a serious discussion of the proposals by the Warsaw Pact states. At the meeting, Ambassador Guenter Buehring countered the attempts by certain NATO representatives to avoid the proposals at the Stockholm conference with the argument that they belong to different negotiating tables.

ZHIVKOV SPEECH AT 6 MARCH TRIPOLI DINNER

AU091442 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 8 Mar 84 pp 1, 5

[Report on speech by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee, chairman of the State Council, at dinner given by Libyan Leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in Tripoli on 6 March]

[Text] Dear Comrade Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi anddear Libyan friends: The first words with which I address you tonight are words of sincere gratitude on my behalf and on behalf of those accompanying me for the opportunity presented to us to again visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

I thank you for the cordial welcome accorded to us beginning at the very moment we stepped on to your beautiful and hospitable land.

I thank you, my friend Al-Qadhdhafi, for the cordial words with which you addressed Bulgaria and its people.

I am happy that I can again express the feelings of deepest respect which we, the Bulgarians, have toward the Arab people of Libya, toward the heroic struggle against colonialism, fascism, and imperialist domination as well as for freedom, independence, and social progress, Todor Zhivkov added.

In 1969, the Bulgarian people cordially acclaimed your victory. Today, we are sincerely pleased that for 15 years now, the Libyan people, under the energetic leader of the 1 September Revolution, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, are confidently building their free and happy life. Only 4 years have passed since my last visit to your friendly country; however, we know and we see that during this short period of time Libya has made a great step forward along the path of socioeconomic progress. In the international forum, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is playing an important role. It actively supports the peoples' struggle against imperialism as well as for freedom and national independence.

Here, in a circle of friends and in an atmosphere of confidence and friendship, we renew the splendid memories of our previous visits to your country and of our previous meetings and talks -- in Tripoli and in Sofia -- the general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of Bulgaria, continued. I believe that you will agree with me that in Bulgarian-Libyan relations there is a date -- 21 January -- when during your visit to Bulgaria we signed the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty and other documents that were given the role of raising cooperation between our countries to an even higher level. I am pleased to note that during the past short period of time we achieved concrete steps toward strengthening and developing our friendship and mutually beneficial ties. We are convinced, and I believe that this also is your opinion, that our achievement is still not fully in keeping with our realistic possibilities and with our needs. The socioeconomic and political development of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is the kind of foundation that will allow us to more fully and effectively cooperate for our mutual interests. I am confident, Comrade al-Qadhdhafi, that our present meeting will bring about a further strengthening and expansion in bilateral political relations and in the traditionally good and dynamic ties in the economic and scientific-technical cooperation spheres. It will also contribute to the development of cultural exchange and to an even better drawing together of our two peoples; in other words, it will be a further step toward the mutually chosen path of friendship and of comprehensive and fruitful cooperation.

In the autumn of 1984, the People's Republic of Bulgaria will festively celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory of the 9 September Socialist Revolution. During the past 40 years, the Bulgarian people, under the BCP leadership, have achieved successes that have completely changed the country, and today Bulgaria is confidently building a developed socialist society, Comrade Todor Zhivkov emphasized.

In building socialism, we have set ourselves tasks of historical importance. In order to fulfill these tasks, however, we need peace, security, confidence, and cooperation. Peace, security, confidence, and cooperation are necessary for the Bulgarian people and for all peoples in the world. That is why we will continue to decisively struggle against the attempts of imperialism to aggravate the international situation and to increase military tension as well as for averting the nuclear war which is threatening mankind.

The forces that are deeply hostile to democracy and to progress have intensified their action in various parts of the world. For many years the United States and its NATO allies have increased military expenditures and have developed new weapons for mass annihilation. Without taking into account the desire and striving of their own peoples, the militaristic circles on both sides of the Atlantic began at the end of 1983 the deployment of new U.S. nuclear intermediate range missiles in some Western European countries. Thus, the possibility of a nuclear conflict has considerably increased.

The goal which the imperialist strategists are pursuing with these activities is the violation of the military-strategical balance between the United States and the USSR, between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, and thus the achievement of military superiority in their favor with the aim of liquidating socialism as a world system. We have to keep in mind that the U.S. Euromissiles threaten not only the European peoples, including those whose governments have accepted them. The U.S. Euromissiles also threaten the security of the peoples throughout the world, because their detonation could bring about a world nuclear disaster. They also directly threaten other peoples of the Mediterranean region. It is useless to explain what the deployment of cruise missiles at the Comiso base means, a base on the island of Sicily that is very close to your country. The militarists can very easily change the course and previous targets towards which the winged death has been aimed.

You know, dear comrades, that the countries of the socialist community are following a consistent, principled, and constructive foreign policy aimed at halting the arms race, at undertaking effective steps toward disarmament and at strengthening peace and international security. Under the new conditions, however, when an attempt is being made to violate the parity in the military and strategic spheres and when a qualitatively new military, strategical, and political situation has been created, the Warsaw Pact could not remain inactive. The People's Republic of Bulgaria fully supports the appropriate measures undertaken by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

We support the positions and stands of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stated in his speech to Moscow voters. We are of the opinion that this is a solid basis for resolving the cardinal problems facing mankind.

At the same time, we are in favor of continuing dialogue with the West and of continuing talks -- but provided that the other side also conducts them in a frank and business-like manner, on the basis of equality and equal security. This is the sense of the proposals forwarded by the socialist countries at the recently opened Stockholm conference.

These proposals are aimed at strengthening security and confidence among the countries, at undertaking effective measures for disarmament, and at strengthening peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The noble initiative on transforming the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone also serves this purpose. Bulgaria has made and is making an active contribution not only to raising, but to actively discussing this prompt and far-sighted initiative together with its neighbors. It is beyond doubt that the implementation of this initiative would be of benefit not only to the Balkan peoples and to the other peoples in the world, but also to the cause of world peace.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov further emphasized that the People's Republic of Bulgaria is strongly concerned over the explosive situation in the Middle East. The barbaric Israeli aggression against the sovereign state of Lebanon is already in its second year. Israel would not have been in a position to so impertinently disregard world public opinion and the resolutions of the United Nations and of the other international organizations had it not been directly supported by the United States. This support has been more specifically expressed in the U.S.-Israeli agreement on strategic cooperation. The United States is not only actively assisting its ally, but is itself participating in this conflict. By constantly exanding its military presence in the Middle East, Washington makes efforts to impose on the Arab peoples the kind of solution of the Middle East conflict that would guarantee its interests and give an impetus to Israeli ambitions for territorial expansion.

The critical situation in the Middle East and the vital interests of the Arab peoples necessitate the strengthening of the unity and joint action of all Arab countries and forces struggling against imperialism and Zionism and the consolidation of their ties with the forces of peace and progress in the world, and primarily with the countries of the socialist community. This is the true road toward restoring the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon, toward frustrating the shameful course of the Camp David agreements, toward resolving the Palestinian problem, and toward defending the just cause of the Arab peoples.

As far as the People's Republic of Bulgaria is concerned, you can be assured, dear Libyan friends, that it will continue to render full support to the struggle of the Arab peoples for a complete and just solution of the Middle East problem and for the establishment of lasting peace in this area which requires: an immediate and complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon, the liberation of all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and afterwards, the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create their own independent state, and a guarantee for the security and independence of all states in this area. For this purpose, it is necessary to convene an international conference within the framework of the United Nations and with the participation of all interested countries, including the PLO.

While speaking about the dangerous conduct of imperialism in the Middle East, we cannot fail to note that this is only one of the many points on our planet toward which the tentacles of imperialism are aimed. It tries, like an octopus, to strangle the freedom, democracy, and independence of the peoples in various parts of the world. It suffices to mention only South Africa, Central America -- Nicaraguan and Grenada -- and a number of other areas in Asia. Imperialism only or in an undermining way develops such actions that intimidate the peaceful and free development of the peoples throughout the world.

The offensive of imperialism is being increasingly resisted by the peoples and progressive forces on all continents. I am confident that our two countries, united in the common determination to defend their achievements, can and will make a realistic contribution to the cohesion of the united anti-imperialist front and to the triumph of peaceful coexistence, democracy, and social progress.

Dear Comrade al-Qadhdhafi and dear Libyan friends, Comrade Todor Zhivkov said in conclusion, I want to again express our most sincere gratitude for the cordial welcome accorded to us. We highly assess our friendly relations with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and are confident that the results of our present visit will contribute to further strengthening Bulgarian-Libyan friendship which is further developing in the name of peace, in the common struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction, as well as for international security and cooperation.

I want to convey most cordial wishes:

-- for the happiness and prosperity of the friendly Arab Libyan people!

-- for the further development and flourishing of Bulgarian-Libyan friendship and cooperation!

-- for the good health and for further great successes of our dear friend, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution!

-- for the cause of peace, understanding, and cooperation among the peoples!

ZHIVKOV MEETS COUNTRYMEN WORKING IN LIBYA

AU091641 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 8 Mar 84 p 5

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Mar (BTA special correspondent) -- Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, who is paying an official friendly visit to the Socialist People's Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah, tonight met at the Bulgarian Embassy with front-rankers of the numerous Bulgarian collectives working in Libya and also with the collective of the Bulgarian diplomatic mission accredited to Libya.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov, who was particularly cordially welcomed, spoke about the tasks that are now facing the BCP and the Bulgarian people in fulfilling the decisions of the 12th BCP Congress. He also dwelled on some topical international issues. The Bulgarian leader highly assessed the talks and meetings with the Libyan leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and pointed out that they will give a further impetus to the friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries and that they are also in the interest of peace and progress in the world.

PROTOCOL WITH USSR MICROBIOLOGICAL GROUP SIGNED

AU092024 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] A Soviet delegation led by Rostislav Rychkov, chief of the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry of the USSR Council of Ministers, is visiting Bulgaria. On 9 March in Sofia, a protocol was signed on the results of the talks and meetings related to the basic trends of further cooperation in the area of microbiological industry and the application of geotechnologies in the two countries' national economies. On the Bulgarian side, the document was signed by Georgi Pankov, minister of chemical industry.

PROTOCOL ON ECONOMIC TALKS SIGNED WITH DPRK

AU091949 Sofia BTA in English 1836 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Sofia, March 9 (BTA) -- Bulgaria and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea wish to develop their mutual commercial, economic, scientific, and technical ties on a long-term basis. Common is their striving for a wider application of some new forms of economic cooperation, one of which is industrial cooperation.

The minister of foreign trade of Bulgaria, Mr Khristo Khristov and the minister of foreign economic relations of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Mr Chong Song-nam, who signed here today the protocol on the economic talks, deem it necessary to stimulate direct contacts between firms of the two countries.

The document provides for Bulgaria to supply the Korean People's Democratic Republic with equipment in the sphere of metallurgy and to render technical cooperation to the development of this branch, to undertake production cooperation in the sphere of mechanical engineering, and in some projects on the processing of fruits and vegetables. Pharmacy, too, is one of the spheres of planned cooperation.

Measures are being outlined also for the increase and diversification of trade.

Yesterday the guest had a conversation with the Politburo member and secretary of the CC of the BCP, Mr Ognyan Doynov, minister of mechanical engineering. The possibilities for intensifying bilateral economic relations were also discussed.

TSANOV-LED TRANSPORTATION GROUP RETURNS FROM IRAN

AU091409 Sofia BTA in English 1353 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Sofia, March 9 (BTA) -- A Bulgarian delegation led by the minister of transport, Mr Vasil Tsanov, returned from Iran today. The delegation visited Iran at the invitation of the Iranian minister of roads and transport, Mr Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan.

During the visit, the two ministers signed a protocol providing for a number of initiatives to boost cooperation in various kinds of transport, and also in transport construction. There are provisions to increase the volume of transit railway transportations from Europe to Iran via Bulgaria and also to intensify the circulation of lorries carrying goods to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ON CAPTIVES IN ANGOLA

LD112136 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpts] A group of Czechoslovak experts and their families were kidnapped a year ago from the industrial complex of Alto Catumbela in Angola by the antigovernment organization UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. As a result of the exceptional effort of responsible Czechoslovak organs, as well as the support of the international public, it has been possible to free most of them. Some of our citizens, however, continue to be detained. Editor Zednek Vilimek asked Stanislav Svoboda, deputy minister of foreign affairs, for an interview on this:

[Begin recording] [Svoboda] Twenty Czechoslvak citizens have remained captives of UNITA. According to information from the International Committee of the Red Cross and international journalists, they live in small native huts, two in each hut; they are allowed to meet only once a week. They are not allowed to work; they do not own radio sets; they do not get newspapers. Their only connection with the world are letters from their relatives at home, but they receive letters rather irregularly. In the past 4 months, the International Committee of the Red Cross has not received permission to visit, thus it could not hand over parcels with medicines, portable medical instruments, and other equipment that were to be handed over on behalf of the Czechoslovak Red Cross by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Considering the conditions under which the captives live, their state of health is altogether satisfactory, but all those who have recently seen the captives note that their psychological state continues to deteriorate. At the moment, connection with the camp, located in southeastern Angola on the border with Zambia and Namibia, is very difficult because of the current period of tropical rains.

[Vilimek] Our public, naturally, continues to be very interested in what the prospects are of our citizens returning home.

[Svoboda] I am firmly convinced that all our citizens will return happily to their families. Our highest representatives -- Comrades Husak, Strougal, Bilak, and Foreign Minister Chnoupek -- are exerting maximum efforts to achieve this aim.

At the moment, talks are under way between the individual countries in southern Africa, which also set up favorable conditions for reaching an agreement on releasing all the captives held by UNITA. This does not only involve Czechoslovak citizens, recently an additional 77 foreign nationals, who have been held captive in eastern Angola at the diamond fields, have been involved.

I would like to assure you that we have not missed a single opportunity, a single possibility for talks about the fate of the Czechoslovak citizens. These talks, of course, are difficult and time-consuming. One can say, however, that we have achieved certain progress in the past period and the possibility of their early return home has increased. [end recording]

THEOLOGIANS'S LETTER ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

LD092336 Vatican City International Service in Czech 1830 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Today's issue of the Italian daily L'AVVENIRE carries the full text of a letter from Czech theologian Dr Josef Zverina, in which he replies to the interview given by Vladimir Janku, irector of the Secretariat for Church Affairs, published in the bimonthly journal IL REGNO in its 20th issue last year.

First, a brief review of that interview, which was about the situation of the church in Czechoslovakia and its relations with the Holy See. Vladimir Janku concentrated in the interview primarily on the appointment of the two bishops for Czechoslovak expatriots: Monsignor Skarvada for Czech expatriots and Monsignor Hrusovsky for Slovak emigrants. He described these appointments as provocative. He also criticized the Holy See's support for the so-called secret church; then he spoke about Zverina's letter, which criticized the television program in June which gave a destorted picture of the situation of Czechoslovak Catholics.

Another sore point in the interview was the declaration of the Congregation for Clergy, which also refers to the priests' movement Pacem in Terris, and this was denied by Vladimir Janku. In conclusion he also spoke about the problem of monks and nuns in connection with the statewide action against the Franciscans, whom he accused of committing misdemeanors against property, and he got around the issue of women's holy orders by pointing out that he saw young nuns in one children's home. But when asked by Italian journalist (Rasari) on whether the woman translator present at the interview could become a novice in a holy order, Vladimir Janku gave no answer.

Dr Josef Zverina writes:

As is usual in our country, I could not get a copy of the IL REGNO journal which carries the interview with the director of our Secretariat for Church Affairs. Therefore I can only refer to some points of which I learned indirectly.

1. The appointment of the two bishops for our expatriots was not a shock to our believers. They know well that this is an internal church affair. However, the political explanation of this appointment by certain circles is something different. That can become a shock -- or a piece of folly.

2. The so-called illegal church, although existing in our country, does so only in the sense of the civil law and church law. The state and its administrative bodies have a good knowledge of this church but -- in contrast to canonical law which it contradicts -- the administration tolerates it, albeit not from love of the universal church or for its welfare. (This group, however, has nothing in common with the so-called underground church which is an invention, a creation and a target of these authorities. In their view, it consists of monks and nuns, priests not having the consent of the state, active believers -- I have in mind for example the sentencing of two laymen by the Sumperk Court on 23 September last year. This church, however, is neither illegal nor underground, nor is it an enemy of the state and socialism but it is a natural form of the church in an abnormal situation that has been created by our so-called religious policy. It is true that it does not cooperate with the atheist regime in its antireligious intrigues and that it takes a stand against the violation of civic laws, international conventions, and numberless forms of discrimination of all types.

3. Our diplomat does not like the fact that the Vatican has forbidden activity to those priests who are members of the Pacem in Terris movement. This is curious, because all official propaganda media are spreading assertions that the statement of the Holy Congregation for Clergy of 7 March 1983 does not concern this movement.

4. The whole world knows that our religious freedom does not permit anyone to enter any religious order. Mr Janku asserts that, contrary to this, he himself allegedly knows young nuns. The fact is, however, that he does not mention -- and this surely not out of politeness -- their age.

Neither do I want to be impolite, but the fact is that the youngest are over 30 years of age, because the latest of them entered convents in the period of 1968-70. He does not mention male religious orders to all.

5. Mr Janku says he does not remember anyone called Josef Zverina, while saying about him at the same time that he is old and active, without adding in what sense he is active, and that he stands at the head of priests who have a negative attitude to the socialist system and who are therefore allegedly approved by the Vatican, which does not love priests who are to the liking of the state. Thus he no longer remembers two letters which the self-same Zverina wrote to Mr Janku, signed with his full name and stating his address. In the first letter, he criticized a television program about so-called religious freedom in Czechoslovakia. Mr Janku also appeared in the program. This letter, which I adressed to him, reached abroad under the name of Cardinal Tomasek. I do not know who did this, but it certainly was not me. CTK press agency asked the usual competent bodies about it. They turned to a responsible representative of the relevant authority, who in turn asked Cardinal Tomasek whether he had really written the letter. This, therefore, was an example of a variation on the play Six Characters in Search of an Author.

In the second letter to Mr Janku, I reminded him that I was the author and that the letter was addressed to him. As far as the content is concerned, in no letter was there talk about religious persecution in our country. On the contrary, I tried to find a way out from the current sad situation -- both for the church and the state. There is absolute silence on this question.

Naturally, it is not necessary to know my person, but it is sessential to tell the truth. From my attempt at dialogue there arose a comedy, but not through my fault. If the head of the Secretariat for Church Affairs is fulfilling so loyally one of Lenin's rules -- concealing or distorting the truth -- how will the talks with the Vatican end? On which side is credibility thus collapsing?

SPD'S GLOTZ DEPARTS AFTER CONCLUDING VISIT

AU090902 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 8 Mar 84 p 2

[CTK report in the "International Contacts" column]

[Text] Peter Glotz, chief editor of the periodocal DIE NEUE GESELLSCHAFT and the SPD's federal agent, who has been visiting the CSSR at the CPCZ Central Committee's invitation, departed for home on Wednesday [7 March]. The guest from the FRG was seen off by Michal Stefanak, deputy head of CPCZ Central Committee Department of International Policy.

HUSAK RECEIVES NEW AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA

LD081439 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1300 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Today in Prague Gustov Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, president of the Republic, received the newly appointed ambassador of Czechoslovakia to the Republic of Indonesia, Richard Kral, in connection with his taking up the appointment.

WORLD OFFICIALS ATTEND LEIPZIG SPRING FAIR

Reagan Sends Greetings

LD111337 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1243 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Leipzig, 11 Mar (ADN) -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan has sent the following message of greetings to the Leipzig Spring Fair: "I am pleased that the U.S. Government is taking part in the 1984 Leipzig Spring Fair. We believe in expanding mutually advantageous trade, and the Leipzig fair serves this end.

"Our trade promotion center is designed to serve this goal by bringing together representatives of the U.S. and the GDR business world and creating a favorable climate for developing our mutual economic relations.

"I wish the Leipzig fair all-round success. May the firms which represent America and the participants from other countries gain valuable and pleasant experiences."

City Welcomes Personalities

LD110110 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1919 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Leipzig, 10 Mar (ADN) -- The trade metropolis of the GDR welcomed personalities from all over the world on the eve of the 1984 Leipzig Spring Fair with a ceremonial concert in the Neues Gewandhaus. Warmly greeted were Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, the members and candidate members of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee: Willi Stoph, chairman of Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber; Joachim Herrmann, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowski, Guenter Mittag, Werner Jarowinsky, Guenther Kleiber, and Gerhard Schuerer. Present were Dr Gerhard Weiss and Dr Herbert Weiz, deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers, and other members of the SED Central Committee -- including Horst Schumann, first secretary of the Leipzig Bezirk SED Executive Committee -- and of the Council of Ministers.

At the beginning the GDR national anthem was played. Leipzig's mayor, Dr Karl-Heinz Mueller, extended to the representatives of the GDR, the personalities from politics and trade, and all guests from the world of international trade, the warmest message of welcome from the city assembly, the council, and all the citizens of the city at this traditional event.

The brilliant evening, at which works by Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Brahms, and Beethoven were played, was enjoyed by government delegations, including that of the USSR Government delegation to the fair led by Minister of Machine Tools and Toolmaking Industry Boris Balmont, leading representatives of the economy, trade and the banks of numerous countries, exhibitors at the fair and business people from all continents.

Among the many guests from abroad were Vice Chancellor of the Republic of Austria Dr Norbert Steger, minister for commerce and industry; PRC Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Chen Jie; Chairman of the Japan-GDR Economic Committee Dr Eishiro Saito, chairman of the board of the Nippon Steel Corporation; Mayor of Saarbruecken Oskar Lafontaine; State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Italian Republic Dr Bruno Corti; State Secretary at the Ministry for Economy, Finance, and Trade of the Kingdom of Spain Luis de Velasco; Chairman of the USA-GDR Trade and Economic Council Dr Jerome Ottmar.

Also present were Minister for Industry, Commerce and Integration of the Republic of Ecuador Jose Augusto Bermeo, Minister for Trade and Supply of the PDRY Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, Minister for Foreign Trade of the People's Republic of Mozambique Joaquim de Carvalho; Minister for Domestic Trade of the Republic of Nicaragua Dionisio Marenco; Chairman of the Board of Friedrich Krupp GmbH Dr Wilhelm Scheider; Chairman of the Board of the Salzgitter AG, Ernst Pieper; Board member of the Otto Wolff AG Gunter Remy; Don Hunter, deputy to the Australian minister for trade and resources; Deputy Minister for Trade of the Kingdom of Thailand Pairojana Chayaporn; State Secretary at the Ministry for Machine Building at the Socialist Republic of Romania Ion Catrinescu; and Vice Minister for Foreign Trade of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Nguyen Tu.

Honecker Tours; To Visit FRG

LD112353 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0923 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Leipzig 11 Mar (ADN) -- At the start of the 1984 Leipzig Spring Fair (11-17 March) where, under the slogan "For open-door trade and technological progress," about 9,000 exhibitors from all parts of the world are represented in 40 categories, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and other members of the party and state leadership undertook their traditional walkabout.

Together with Erich Honecker were members and candidate members of the SED Central Committee Politburo: Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber; Joachim Herrmann, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowski, Guenter Mittag, Werner Jarowinsky, Guenther Kleiber, Guenter Schabowski, and Gerhard Scheurer; deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers: Wolfgang Rauchfuss, Dr Gerhard Weiss, and Dr Herbert Weiz; and other members of the SED Central Committee and Council of Ministers. They visited the exhibitions from home and abroad.

In Hall 20, where the GDR machine tool industry is showing its export range, GDR Foreign Trade Minister Horst Soelle welcomed the members of the party and state leadership. In the 35th year of the GDR's existence the combines exhibiting in Leipzig, with their quality range of investment and consumer goods, scientific-technological innovations, technologies and achievements, testify to the fact that the national economy, with its intellectual potential and material resources, is capable of achieving that increase in productive capacity expected today and in future, he said.

Continuing purposefully its long-term plans for the eighties, allied closely to the Soviet Union and the other CEMA member-states, the GDR remains open toward everything that promotes open-door trade and technological progress, benefits all concerned and serves the preservation of peace and the consolidation of the structure of international relations, the minister emphasized in his brief address.

Erich Honecker and the other members of party and state leadership briefed themselves at the "Mashinexport" stand, one of the largest foreign exhibitors in the machine tools and tools section, on the increased performance of Bulgarian engineering. A cordial welcome was extended by Toshko Toshkov, Bulgarian charge d'affaires in the GDR.

Toshko Toshkov expressed his belief that the agreement on further strengthening economic and scientific-technological cooperation and specialization in industry and agriculture, signed by Erich Honecker and Todor Zhivkov in 1983 during the Bulgarian party and state delegation's friendship visit to the GDR, would result in giving fresh impetus to cooperation. Erich Honecker said the exhibits demonstrate the effectiveness of bilateral cooperation and specialization in science, technology and production for the two countries' economies.

At the Polish exhibitors' stand, Ambassador Maciej Wirowski conveyed fraternal greetings from the first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, Wojciech Jaruzelski, which were equally cordially reciprocated by Erich Honecker. The ambassador pointed out that in the 40th year of its existence the Polish People's Republic is represented at the spring fair with a considerably expanded range of products. This is an expression of how the GDR party and state delegation's friendship visit in August 1983 further intensified and stimulated economic relations between the two countries.

At the Hungarian Elektroimpex, Budavox, and Tungsram stands, the members of GDR party and state leadership were welcomed by Hungarian Embassy official Lajos Nagy and trade representative Ferenc Kodmon. The former said that trade between Hungary and the GDR developed positively again last year. This increase in its growth rate is above that of Hungarian foreign trade as a whole. Erich Honecker stressed that mutual trade relations are developing well.

The PRC exhibition encompasses 1,800 exhibits. Ambassador Li Qiangfen conveyed a message from General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee Hu Yaobang to Erich Honecker, in which Hu Yaobang expresses his pleasure at the development of relations between the two countries and expresses his confidence that this development has good prospects. He hopes that both sides will continue to try to expand relations and make joint efforts also to contribute to long-lasting world peace.

Erich Honecker expressed thanks for the message from the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and reciprocated his greetings. Trade relations have reached a good level, Erich Honecker said, yet these could be developed still further. Good conditions for this are being created through reciprocal visits by delegations of experts. The most recent example of this was the fact-finding visit by a delegation of the Chinese State Planning Commission at the beginning of March in Berlin on questions of management and planning in the GDR economy.

Also present as the greetings were exchanged was Chen Jie, PRC deputy minister of foreign trade and external economic relations.

With 76 exhibiting firms, banks and an official trade information stand, Great Britain has again expanded its presence at the Leipzig fair.

Erich Honecker drew attention to the scheduled visit by a GDR economic delegation to Great Britain in April which creates further opportunities for developing trade relations on the basis of equality and mutual advantage. The British side is very much looking forward to this, the ambassador said. His country's firms are represented at the fair in 15 branches of industry.

At the Saar Society for Trade Promotion in Hall 7, Erich Honecker and the other GDR representatives were welcomed by Saarland Premier Werner Zeyer.

Premier Zeyer, in an open discussion, conveyed to Erich Honecker greetings from FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. He expressed thanks that the chairman of the GDR State Council and the other dignitaries had visited the Saarland stand in Leipzig. On behalf of the federal chancellor he conveyed to Erich Honecker best wishes, which apply equally to the successful course of the Leipzig Spring Fair. Premier Zeyer expressed the hope that economic relations between the FRG and GDR would continue to develop for the benefit of both sides. His country and Saar industry are very interested in expanding trade relations with the GDR.

Premier Zeyer also expressed the hope that a visit by Erich Honecker to the FRG and the talks which would then be held with Federal Chancellor Kohl would serve mutual relations. Zeyer invited Erich Honecker at the same time to also visit the Saarland.

The head of the FRG's permanent mission in the GDR, Dr Hans Otto Braeutigam, welcomed Erich Honecker on behalf of the Federal Government and said that the more intense economic and trade relations were between the two German states, the more stable political relations would be. Good-neighborly cooperation between the two German states include contacts at expert and political levels. Talks between the federal chancellor and the GDR State Council chairman, stressed Hans Otto Braeutigam, serve security in Europe. The diplomat also stressed the development of various relations with the GDR, particularly in the economic field. He spoke out in favor of further expanding cooperation between the FRG and GDR in a number of fields.

Erich Honecker cordially thanked Premier Zeyer and the other FRG representatives as well as the Saarland exhibition. He pointed out that trade between the two German states considerably increased in volume last year, with GDR exports and imports increasing by 8 percent in each case compared with 1982. Erich Honecker said that the GDR is striving to substantially develop its trade relations with the FRG and also with firms in the Saarland. Trade is a good basis for relations between the two German states. Trade serves the people, and the GDR proceeds from the premise that the FRG is also ready to expand trade relations on the basis of existing agreements and contacts.

Erich Honecker expressed thanks for the greetings from Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl, which he reciprocated. He accepted the invitation to visit the FRG, the date of which would have to be agreed by diplomatic channels. Present at the open discussion were also the president of the Saarland state government, Albrecht Herold, the Saarland economics minister, Dr Horst Rehberger, Saarbruecken's Mayor Oskar Lafontaine, and other representatives of the Saarland and its industry.

The Austrian Federal Chamber of Commerce, reported its president, Rudolf Sallinger, has been attending Leipzig fairs as an official institution for 35 years. Rudolf Sallinger stressed in an animated discussion with the members of GDR party and state leadership that numerous relations open up with the presence of the federal chamber in Leipzig even for small- and medium-sized firms. He said that trade must not be a one-way street.

Erich Honecker agreed with this and expressed his satisfaction at the excellent development of economic relations between the GDR and Austria.

For 35 years, Italian firms have been using Leipzig fairs for their trade. At the stand of the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade, Erich Honecker and the other dignitaries were welcomed by Dr Bruno Corti, state secretary in the Foreign Ministry and chairman of the Italian side of the mixed government commission, by Ambassador Carlo Albertario and by the director of the institute's mission in the GDR, Dr Ettore Vernacchia. Also present were members of the Italian side of the mixed GDR-Italian government commission, the seventh meeting of which ended Sunday. State Secretary Corti expressed his country's interest in further strengthening bilateral cooperation in the economic field. The Italian side was guided by this in its work in the mixed government commission. He praised the good political contacts between the two countries which would be given fresh impetus by the impending visit by GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer to Italy.

Erich Honecker agreed with the state secretary's hope that an advance in the quality of economic relations between the two might be achieved. The GDR was at pains to further develop trade with Italy in accordance with the two countries' economic potentials. About 100 firms are representing Italy at the fair.

The Danish ambassador, Henrick Holger Haxthausen, drew attention to his country's extensive exhibition at the fair and to the progress in economic relations with the GDR. Numerous possibilities existed for intensifying trade. Erich Honecker agreed with this and said that we have made further headway. He wished the Danish exhibitors success at the fair.

During his visit to the Norwegian stand, Ambassador Per Borgen described his country's attendance at the fair as a fresh expression of the striving to expand trade relations with the GDR. Erich Honecker pointed out that there are many starting points for developing contacts within the framework of existing long-term government agreements.

Economic cooperation and trade between the GDR and Sweden have been developing in a stable manner for years. These relations were the subject of the discussion at the Swedish Export Council's information stand. Ambassador Rune Nystroem drew attention to the good traditions of mutual economic relations which had reached a high level, but which were still capable of development. Erich Honecker shared this view. He described the participation of Swedish building firms in major projects in the GDR as an example of this advantageous cooperation. Firms are involved, for example, in the further development of the port of Rostock and in the construction of the "Bellevue" Interhotel in Dresden.

The next stop was the U.S. trade promotion center. We are happy at your visit, said Ambassador Mrs Rozanne L. Ridgway to Erich Honecker and introduced him to the assistant secretary of state in the U.S. Department of Trade, Dr Susanne Lotarski. Also present was the chairman of the United States-GDR Economic Council, Jerome Ottmar.

We are convinced that the United States and GDR are able to expand their trade, said Ambassador Ridgway. You are quite right, replied Erich Honecker. I fully recognize the good will on your part and you can also count on it on our side. There were some questions relating to a trade agreement with a mutual guarantee of most-favored-nation treatment. We believe, however, said Erich Honecker, that regardless of this, a way can be found to activate trade. He recalled that various visits by representatives of the U.S. Administration to the GDR have taken place recently as well as visits by GDR representatives to the United States. This is a hopeful sign and is very important for developing mutual trade relations.

Kuwait is exhibiting in Leipzig for the seventh time. The cooperation between the two countries, stressed Ambassador Tal'at Ya'qub al'Ghusayn, had received considerable impetus, particularly after the state visit by Erich Honecker to Kuwait in 1982. Erich Honecker reciprocated the greetings, conveyed by the ambassador, from the emir of Kuwait, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir. He said that the existing potentials of the two countries provided good prerequisites for expanding economic cooperation.

Ambassador Kris Nurmathias drew Erich Honecker's attention to his country's great interest in developing economic relations with the GDR. Indonesian businessmen, he said, had come to Leipzig with great expectations. Erich Honecker wished the Indonesian exhibitors good business.

Canada is again officially represented by the Ministry of Trade which represents firms of the raw materials industry, agriculture, medical equipment and the clothing industry. At the stand in Hall 16, Canada's ambassador to the GDR, Alan Pittman McLaine and trade official David St George Armour welcomed the members of GDR party and state leadership. During the discussion, the ambassador conveyed cordial greetings from Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau who visited the GDR at the beginning of the year at Erich Honecker's invitation. This meeting has been of great international and bilateral importance, said Erich Honecker. Since the meeting, mutual relations had improved considerably, said Ambassador McLaine. It was the first time he had been to the Leipzig fair and was very impressed with this center of world trade. Canada's exhibition this year is the biggest ever in Leipzig. Erich Honecker said goodbye wishing every success for good business at the fair.

The research director at the Cameroon industry of trade and industry, M'vie Rostand, told Erich Honecker of his country's interest in technologies and engineering products from GDR. Erich Honecker wished the exhibitors from this African state every success.

India is the biggest exhibitor of the developing countries. During his meeting with Erich Honecker, Ambassador T. Prabhakar Menon expressed admiration at the good organization of the Leipzig fair. Erich Honecker expressed the certainty that a further expansion of trade would consolidate the friendly bonds between the two countries.

At the Nicaraguan stand, the members of the GDR party and state leadership were welcomed under the portrait of the people's hero, Cesar Sandino, by Ambassador Emilio Moreno Gutierrez and Minister of Trade Dionisio Marcenca Gutierrez. They thanked the GDR for the solidarity support which had been given to its people and the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

At the end of their walkabout at the 1984 Leipzig Spring Fair, Erich Honecker, Willi Stoph, Horst Sindermann and the other members of the party and state leadership of the GDR visited the Soviet pavilion. A cordial welcome was offered to them by Boris Balmont, head of the USSR Government delegation to the fair, and minister of machine tools and toolmaking industry, Saurbek Wanijew, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the North Osetian ASSR, Vyacheslav Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR, Marlen Akopow, director of the joint Soviet exhibition, and Army General Mikhail Zaytsev, commander in chief of the Group of Soviet Armed Forces in Germany.

On an area of 12,000 square meters in Hall 12 and 800 square meters of an open-air site, 16 foreign trade associations, the USSR Academy of Sciences and other USSR institutions are offering a comprehensive range of products which testify to the important scientific-technological progress and great success in the realization of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

The exhibition comprises a total of 8,000 products, 600 of which are the result of specialization and cooperation within the CEMA framework which celebrates this year the 35th anniversary of its founding.

Subsequently the members of the party and state delegation were guests at the special exhibitions of the economic areas Urals and the North Osetian ASSR.

The walkabout through the Soviet pavilon was followed by the traditional cordial meeting at which Boris Balmont and Erich Honecker spoke.

Ghana has for many years attended the Leipzig fairs. A cordial meeting took place at its stand between Erich Honecker and Ambassador Assua Kwasi Sekyi-Kwandoh.

A large screen at the Cuban collective stand under the motto "35 years of the GDR -- 25 years of victory of the Cuban revolution" shows the friendly relations between the two countries. Ambassador Dr Julio Garcia Oliveras told the members of the party and state leadership: "We are very happy to be in Leipzig again, for the city is among the major international trade centers." He said that trade was a good language for peace. Erich Honecker replied that the very close and fraternal relations between the two countries would also be expanded in future in the interests of Cuba and the GDR.

Economic cooperation between the two states has developed dynamically and further deepened since the meeting between Erich Honecker and Fidel Castro in 1980 and 1983. A further increase over 1983 was agreed on in trade this year.

Basic and luxury goods, leather goods, agrochemicals and fodder were among the products representing Argentina at the spring fair. On being welcomed by Ambassador Enrique Amadeo Candioti at the country's information stand Erich Honecker expressed the hope that relations would further develop to mutual advantage.

Engineering products, electro-technological and electronic products as well as metallurgical products characterise the Yugoslav exhibition. In a talk with Erich Honecker at the Yugoslav information stand Ambassador Ljubomir Majeric praised his country's relations with the GDR as friendly and stable. Erich Honecker agreed with him that trade between the countries had developed well. The GDR was interested in expanding these relations.

At present there are 27 agreements on long-term cooperation and trade between Yugolavia and the GDR. The joint annual protocol provides for the biggest trade volume so far in 1984.

At the exhibition of the PLO enterprise SAMED, Abu 'Ala, minister for economic affairs and director general of SAMED, praised the GDR'S solidarity with the just struggle of the PLO. He conveyed cordial greetings from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Council, to Erich Honecker, which the latter reciprocated. The PLO ambassador to the GDR, Isam Kamil Salim was present.

Vietnam, which celebrates 5 years of CEMA membership this year, delivers products connected with light industry, coffee, peanuts, and fruit preserves to the GDR. At the country's collective stand Ambassador Pham Van Kim and Vice Foreign Trade Minister Nguyen Tu welcomed the members of the party and state leadership. The ambassador assured that Vietnam would in future also channel its efforts into the expansion of economic relations with the GDR in line with the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. In 1984 Vietnam will receive textile machinery, trucks, communication technology, calculators, and typewriters as well as pesticides, fertilizers and medicaments from the GDR.

Traditional and indigenous products characterize the Laotian collective stand. Charge d'affaires of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos to the GDR, Done Somvorachit, praised in his talk with Erich Honecker the traditional good relations between the two countries. Erich Honecker wished success and good business during the course of the fair.

The fraternal and friendly relations between Afghanistan and the GDR were praised by Ambassador Mohammad Shafi in a talk with Erich Honecker and the other public figures. It was useful to expand relations between Afghanistan and the GDR all-round. Erich Honecker pledged himself to this and wished the Afghan people further success in all spheres.

At the stand of the PDRY [People's Democratic Republic of Yemen] Erich Honecker congratulated representatives on its anniversary visit to the fair. The country's industrial and agricultural enterprises were taking part in the Leipzing fair for the fifteenth time.

Erich Honecker cordially reciprocated the greetings conveyed by Ambassador Qasim 'Abd ar-Rabb Jalih on behalf of chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the PDRY and general secretary of the Yemen Socialist Party, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani. He expressed his conviction to the minister of trade and supply, Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, that cooperation between the GDR and the PDRY would prove successful in the future.

The members of the party and state leadership were informed about the products, consisting mainly of foodstuffs, drinks, clothing and pharmaceutical products, of Guyana.

Natural products and handcrafts characterize the collective exhibit of Kampuchea. A trade agreement up to 1985 links the Asian country with the GDR.

In a talk with the deputy minister of trade of Kampuchea, Thong Chon and Ambassador Phy Thach, Erich Honecker referred to the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the two countries. He wished the successful conclusion of contracts at the Leipzig Fair.

In September Ethiopia will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its revolution and will put into operation economically important projects which came into being with the GDR's support. This was stated by Ambassador Berhanu Jembere in talks with GDR state and party figures at his country's stand. They include high-performance enterprises such as a cement factory, an oil mill, and the first stage of a new textile combine.

Syria regards its participation at the fair as an expression of the long years of good economic and trade relations with the GDR. This was stated by Ambassador Dr Faysal Summaq in a talk with Erich Honecker. The GDR's leading representative assessed the Syrian exhibition as a small sign of the great friendship linking the two peoples. He underlined the GDR's solidarity with the courageous anti-imperialist struggle of the Syrian people. He looked back with pleasure on his visit to Damascus in the autumn of 1982.

At the Bangladesh stand Erich Honecker and the other public figures were greeted by the Charge d'Affaires Mrs Ltfen Nahar Choudhury.

The dynamically developing economic relations between Angola and the GDR were praised by Domingo Castro, deputy national director for commercial operations and director of the Angolan exhibition at the Leipzig Fair in a talk with Erich Honecker. The GDR's leading representative replied that he hoped trade relations between the two countries would continue to develop well.

At Ecuador's stand, Minister of Industry and Trade Jose Augusto Bermeo referred to the traditional trade relations between his country and the GDR. The 19 years of uninterrupted participation at the Leipzig Fair underlined the good relations between the two states, he said during Erich Honecker's visit to the stand. Ecuador was making efforts to shape its trade and cooperation with the GDR even more closely. Erich Honecker also expressed interest in deepening mutual relations.

Ambassador Julio Goncalo Braga received the guests at Mozambique's collective stand. In the ensuing talk with Joaquim de Carvalho, minister of foreign trade of Mozambique, Erich Honecker praised the developement of relations, of which the exhibition was a clear demonstration. He assured that the GDR would continually renew its solidarity with Mozambique and conveyed warm greetings to the president of the Mozambique Liberation Front and Mozambique, Samora Machel.

Producers and exporters from the Philippines have been exhibiting at the Leipzig Fair since 1977. In a talk with the ambassador of the Philippines Erich Honecker said the GDR was in the process of further developing relations positively. He wished the exhibitors from the Philippines success during the fair. As a meeting place of the international trade world, Leipzig offered the best possibilities for this.

Brazil has been exhibiting at Leipzig for 19 years. Ambassador Mario Calabria a sured that his country always came to Leipzig full of expectations and was never disappointed. Erich Honecker wished good business and spoke in favor of the further successful development of the long years of positive trade relations.

Bolivia is represented at the Leipzig fair for the first time. Erich Honecker wished the businessmen of Bolivia good contacts during the fair. He was convinced that relations between the GDR and Bolivia would continue to develop.

Mexican firms are mainly exhibiting herbs, cotton, fruit and vegetable preserves and glass products at their stand. Ambassador Rogelino Martinez welcomed the members of the state and party leadership at the stand. His country was determined to continue purposefully together with the GDR in the economic sphere. Erich Honecker said that the GDR would consistently work toward putting economic relations on a broader basis.

This year Iraq is celebrating 25 years of attendance at the fair. Ambassador Dhiab M. al-Algawi expressed his wish to the guests that relations between the two countries will further develop and deepen. Concurring, Erich Honecker noted that the trade could flourish only in peace. He wished the Iraqi exhibitors good business in Leipzig. He asked the ambassador to convey his best wishes to the chairman of the Revolution Command Council and president of the Republic of Iraq, Saddam Husayn.

At the stand of the Economics Ministry of the Netherlands, Ambassador Count Roland Hugo van Limburg Stirum pointed to the long-standing and traditional attendance at the fair by his country's firms. Erich Honecker wished the exhibitors good business in the interests of trade between the two countries.

Belgium's interest in the further expansion of relations with the GDR was expressed by Ambassador Dr Robert Six when he welcomed Erich Honecker to his country's information stand. In the presence of trade attache Xavier Schreiber, he pointed to the good development of bilateral contacts. Erich Honecker replied that he shared this view. There were greater possibilities for strengthening these relations, he stressed, and concluded with a wish for good business.

In the meeting at the Finnish information stand, Ambassador Ensio Helaniemi stated his satisfaction over relations between Finland and the GDR. He said that with the development of contacts, trade had also increased. Erich Honecker stressed that this consolidated position had created good preconditions for a visit by Finland. He wished the Finnish exhibitors success at the fair.

At the CSSR stand in Hall 1, Ambassasor Pavel Sadovsky praised the continuity of trade relations between the GDR and CSSR in a talk with Erich Honecker and the other members of the party and state leadership. He stressed that the planned deliveries in fuel, chemical raw materials and rolling material would be completed this year as planned. Trade would further increase on the basis of the 1984 annual protocol. Erich Honecker said that both countries are further deepening their specialization and cooperation and that the quality of cooperation was very high. The forthcoming 26th meeting of the joint economic committee for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the GDR and the CSSR would lay down further concrete tasks to this end.

The Japanese street in Hall 16 is, as in years past, one of the stages in Erich Honecker's walkabout. At the Nippon Steel stand, he was received by about 100 representatives of leading economic circles of Japan and Ambassador Yuzuru Murakami. In welcoming him, the chairman of the Japan-GDR economic committee, and the chairman of the board of Nippon Steel, Dr Eishiro Saito, expressed his pleasure at meeting Honecker in the afternoon. Erich Honecker wished the Japanese firms represented at the Leipzig Fair good business. One of the first contracts to be signed at the Leipzig Fair this year was with the Mitsubishi firm. It signed on Sunday morning a contract on the import of urea from the GDR with the foreign trade enterprise Chemie.

A novelty at the fair is an exhibit of GDR technologies and achievements under the theme "Your Problem -- Our Solution." The secretary of state in the Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr Klaus Stubenrauch, outlined to Erich Honecker the wish of the academies, institutes, and combines involved to offer new ideas and proven projects to interested parties abroad.

At the Citroen (France) stand, Erich Honecker and the other public figures were welcomed by the French Ambassador Maurice Deshors, trade councillor Roger Cornelis, and director-general of Citroen, Raymond Ravenel. "Since the last fair, France and the GDR have made forward-looking progress in relations in the sphere of the economy, science, and culture," said the ambassador and recalled the opening of the cultural centeres in Paris and Berlin. He assessed the frank dialogue conducted between the two countries on various levels as a contribution to the bilateral application of the Helsinki Final Act and Madrid documents, as serving a "cooperation of common sense, detente, and peace."

Erich Honecker thanked him for the friendly reception and said "It is in fact the case that relations between our countries have reached a new quality." In line with the agreements concluded, the GDR will make efforts to further expand trade relations on the basis of mutual advantage and in line with the principles that have emerged between the two countries. This would also make a contribution to detente and the peaceful development of the peoples.

At the stand of the Romanian foreign trade enterprise, Masinexportimport, Ambassador Gheorghe Tache expressed the hope for good business in Leipzig. The minister of state in the ministry of machine building, Ion Catrinescu conveyed cordial greetings from Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and the president of Romania, which were equally cordially reciprocated by Erich Honecker. He was convinced, said Erich Honecker, that relations between the GDR and Romania would continue to develop successfully in all spheres.

BISHOP LEICH ASSESSES CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS

LD041243 Hamburg DPA in German 1109 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Bonn 4 Mar (DPA) -- In the opinion of Thuringian Bishop Werner Leich, trust between state and church in the GDR has increased during 1983, the year of Luther celebrations. However, the juxtaposition of Marxists and Christians is always a dynamic relationship which entails sometimes more, sometimes fewer strains, Leich said in an interview on Duetschlandfunk Radio on Sunday. Relations between state and church can be considered orderly or good only when the declaration contained in the GDR Constitution that Christians are equal, equally respected and equally committed citizens, is experienced by all parish members in everyday life.

The church, the evangelical bishop underlined, considers itself to be the advocate of all people beset by trouble, even if their concerns are not the concerns of the church. However, the protecting hand of the church reaches only so far as the church, in open dialogue with the representatives of the state, is able to arouse understanding by means of convincing and supporting people in distress. In this way considerable harshness has been removed. However, in the final analysis each individual has to assess the risk himself; there is no confession of faith with a built-in safety net.

Bishop Leich, who was chairman of the church's Luther Committee, said that the fact that even people who until then had been living on the periphery of the church or had not even been church members, had come closer to Luther and thus Jesus Christ, is the most lasting impression of the Luther celebrations during the 1983 anniversary year. This is especially true of many young people. It is already noticeable today that the number of baptisms of children and adults has increased. However, the church was no automaton which could, by pressing a button, realize the wishes of the young people.

BRIEFS

MINISTER'S TALKS IN FRANCE -- On 23 February Jean la Garrec, French minister of planning, received Werner Buschmann, GDR minister of light industry. Both sides praised the continuity in relations; the French minister stressed that the visit of the GDR minister contributes to developing relations in the light industry field as France is interested in developing industrial cooperation, trade relations, and cooperation in third markets in this field. [Summary] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 24 Feb 84 p AU] On 24 February the GDR minister for light industry, Werner Buschmann, had talks in the French ministries for industry and research and for economy and finances on new possibilities of cooperation in the light industry field. At a cocktail party Buschmann had talks with Michel Freche, chairman of the committee for promoting trade with the GDR in the French association of entrepreneurs, as well as with leading representatives of French enterprises. [Summary] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 25/26 Feb 84 p 2 AU]

SPORTS AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE -- Paris 9 Mar (ADN) -- An agreement on cooperation in sports between the GDR and France was signed on Friday in Paris by the DTSB [German Gymnastics and Sports Association] President Manfred Ewald, and the French minister delegate to the minister for leisure, youth and sport, Edwige Avice. The first youth protocol on sports exchange between the two countries was also signed. Manfred Ewald was in Paris for a several-day visit at the invitation of the French minister. In a joint press statement at the end of their talks it was stressed "that in various talks the heads of the two delegations underlined the role of sport as a factor in the preservation of peace and discussed a series of questions related to their bilateral cooperation and to international sport." [Excerpt] [East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1640 GMT 9 Mar 84 LD]

MONGOLIAN POLITICIAN VISITS -- On 27 February Hans Reichelt, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and chairman of the GDR section of the Joint GDR-Mongolian People's Republic Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation, received for a talk Puntsagiyn Jasray, first deputy chairman of the State Planning Commission of Mongolia. The guest is in the GDR for consultations on coordinating the national economic plans for the period 1986-90. At the meeting they discussed the level of cooperation and stressed that it is developing successfully and continuously, in particular, in the agriculture, raw material economy, geology, foodstuff industry, and light industry fields. [Summary] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 28 Feb 84 p 2 AU]

ILL PALESTINIANS RECEIVED -- Fifteen sick Palestinian patriots have been in the GDR since 27 February, where they are being treated in institutions of the health sector. On their arrival at the Berlin-Schoenfeld Airport, they were welcomed by Kurt Roth, secretary of the GDR solidarity committee, who called their reception an expression of solidarity with the PLO. [Text] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 28 Feb 84 p 2 AU]

ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF CHERNENKO'S SPEECH

LD102258 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 10 Mar 84

[From the "168 Hours" program]

[Text] Konstantin Chernenko's big election speech last week and the lecture he gave before the workers of the party apparatus seem to attest that the leaders of Soviet policy consider reforming the economy as an issue of outstanding importance -- a carefully thought out and gradual reform. My colleague Ivan Bedo spoke about this to Andras Koves, staff member of the Economic and Market Research Institute, who as an expert in East-West economic relations is well informed in the matter of the planned reforms of the Soviet economy:

[Begin recording] [Bedo] Konstantin Chernenko, in his election speech last week and even this week when he spoke to workers of the party apparatus, dealt very extensively with the economy. It emerged from his speech, if I may use his expressions, that the Soviet system of economic management must be reformed, reconstructed, and perfected. I wonder how far this represents a change compared to what has gone before.

[Koves] I think that the most important thing that expresses the problems is what Konstantin Chernenko himself spoke about when he said that economic growth in the country has slowed down. In 1981-1982 the growth of Soviet industrial production attained a rate of about 3 percent per annum. These figures, measured on the international scale, continue to be noteworthy. One must take into consideration, however, that in the USSR's case the slowing down of economic growth was not brought about by those changes in the international economic environment to which we in Hungary used to allude as one of the factors of the slowdown.

[Bedo] These world economic conditions were useful, even beneficial to the USSR. For example the rise in the price of oil. The USSR is a great oil exporter.

[Koves] That is so. In the USSR's exports the share of energy materials, first and foremost oil, is very big, and this significantly improved the exchange rates in trade with capitalist countries since 1974, and since 1975 in trade within CEMA, too.

[Bedo] If external factors had a favorable effect on the USSR economy, then evidently the slowing down of economic growth had to have considerable internal causes as well.

[Koves] There are very many and very complex causes of this. The slowing down is also problematical because according to the Soviet leadership's assessment the rate of development that evolved is not sufficient compared to the development demands of the Soviet economy, compared to the needs of the improvement of living standards and compared to the defense burdens that weigh on the Soviet economy. We know well that these things, these tensions, also have consequences for foreign trade. On the one hand they make the increase of capitalist export takings difficult and on the other hand they also make difficult the supplies to CEMA. The question is what methods are available for bridging the difficulties.

Since November 1982 -- it was in that month that Yuriy Andropov became general secretary of the CPSU -- measures were introduced that made it possible at least to speed up industrial production. It was possible to attain an approximately 4 percent rate from the roughly 3 percent rate of 1981-1982. The 1984 plan also prescribes nearly 4 percent growth of industrial production.

In his election speech Konstantin Chernenko stressed in this connection that: We have managed to achieve the improvement of economic indices on the basis, essentially, of the reserves we had in hand; we started the consolidation of order, organization, and discipline. This, however, can naturally only bring results in the short term. For this reason, too, the general secretary of the CPSU adds that we must attain profound qualitative changes which, naturally, we must take to mean that the long-term road to the improvement of economic performance is the improvement of effectiveness, the increase of productivity.

[Bedo] In his election speech Chernenko mentioned that a number of economic experiments are in progress and if, when these have been evaluated, they attain some kind of result, then it will be possible to advance further.

[Koves] The very fact that it is a question of experiments, it is primarily a question of experiments, shows that in the Soviet Union the reform of the economic mechanism is thought of as a longer process. According to General Secretary Chernenko there must be an advance on a wider front, but it is very important that this advance should be circumspect; changes should not be made in a thoughtless, hasty fashion. The essence of the changes is the perfecting of the current economic system, making the functioning of the currently operating system of management based on plan directives and the separation into individual targets more rational and better functioning than at present. This is well demonstrated by the series of experiments started in January 1984. The series of experiments, on the one hand, extends to a fairly narrow sphere. The experiments will be introduced in the enterprises of five ministries...

[Bedo interrupts] These five ministries are not too many because in the USSR there are about 60 ministries altogether, is that right?

[Koves] There are over 40 branch economic ministries and over 20 machine industry ministries in the USSR and, I think, 9 construction industry ministries. Therefore, at the most 5 percent of the enterprises and associations functioning in Soviet economy will be taking part in the experiment.

[Bedo] Now, what is the essence of the experiment?

[Koves] On the one hand they will reduce the number of the compulsory plan indices which the enterprises taking part in the experiment receive. On the other hand, they will receive certain wider possibilities, greater independence for material incentives. The third thing one has to say about the experiment is that it is a 3-year experiment. Assuming that the Soviet leadership decides that the experiment will have to be extended and introduced into the Soviet economy, one can hardly expect that this will take place before the end of the decade. [end recording]

WORKERS' DELEGATION VISITS USSR 5-8 MARCH

LD081927 Budapest MTI in English 1751 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Budapest, March 8 (MTI) -- A party workers' delegation, headed by Laszlo Karakas, head of department at the CC, visited the Soviet Union from March 5 to 8 on the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The delegation met Yegor Ligachev, secretary of the CPSU CC, and held talks with Nikolay Ligachev, head of the CC's Party Economic Department. [as received] The sides exchanged views on cooperation and the delegation visited the Moscow Committee of the CPSU.

FRG BUNDESTAG DELEGATION VISITS 8-10 MARCH

Kadar, Losonczi Receive Barzel

LD091455 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee, has received Rainer Barzel, president of the West German parliament. The politician from Bonn arrived in our country yesterday at the head of a parliamentary delegation. The relations of the two countries and the importance of dialogue and cooperation of countries with different social systems were discussed at the meeting. Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council, received Rainer Barzel this morning.

Official Visit Ends

LD101747 Budapest MTI in English 1712 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Budapest, March 10 (MTI) -- After concluding an official visit to Hungary, the delegation of the Federal parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany left Budapest Saturday. The delegation was headed by Dr. Ranier Barzel, president of the parliament. The delegation was invited by the Hungarian National Assembly. The Hungarian and the Federal German parliamentary delegations exchanged views about their activities, discussed the state of cooperation between the Hungarian and Federal legislations, and explored possibilities for expansion of relations.

Antal Apro, president of the Hungarian National Assembly, and Norman Dencker, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Hungary, saw the delegation off at Budapest airport.

OVARI CITED ON TIMELY POLITICAL QUESTIONS

LD090325 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Miklos Ovari, member of the Politburo, secretary of the Central Committee of the MSZMP, familiarized himself yesterday and today with the political, economic, and social position of Somoy Country. Andras Fajer reports, with radio pictures, on the last phase of the visit, a meeting of activists, where participants were briefed by Miklos Ovari on timely political questions.

[Begin recording] [Fajer] In his more than an hour long speech he spoke about the most timely internal political and international questions, primarily about the chief task of the people of the socialist camp, and within it that of Hungary: the protection of peace. This, as he said, is only possible through the maintenance of the military balance of power, but the socialist countries wish to establish the balance of forces at the lowest possible level of armaments. To the strength of arms is to be added the strength of the hinterland, in this case that of the socialist countries, said the Central Committee secretary. This strength lies in cooperation, in consultations, and in the stability of the individual countries.

In respect to the international role of Hungary, he said that diplomatic tourism to Hungary is sizeable. In recent months, there were meetings with the leaders of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the GDR, and Bulgaria on the highest level, while Hungary was visited by the president of the French Republic, the prime minister of Britain, and the vice president of the United States. What is the reason for this bubbling diplomatic life? Miklos Ovari answered this in the following way:

[Ovari] This interest exists not because of eccentricity or of our peculiarities. People are interested, responsible poltical factors are interested.

How did the Hungarians do it? That it was possible to overcome and leave behind a horribly difficult situation following 1956 and to create a flourishing country. Well, I think we can say that the other reason is that we apply Marxism-Leninism. We apply the theory to our concrete characteristics, we take into account our capabilities, and we realize these principles in practice in this fashion. Another thing is that our policies endeavor to take into account realities; both the realities of the country's domestic life as well as the realities of world politics. We are open to the experiences of others. We dare to change if we see it necessary. Our policies are open ones. I mean by this that when we speak about policies, about international questions, we say the same thing at home, we say the same thing in Moscow and we say the same thing perhaps in some kind of Western capital, we say the same thing at mass meetings and we say the same thing at confidential negotiations. Finally, and perhaps this is the most important, we are respected because of our results.

[Fajer] In the second half of his speech Miklos Ovari, spoke about internal political questions.

[Ovari] We must solve the issue of transformation from the extensive phase of economic development to the intensive pahse. It is from this that the second large task follows: to adjust, as soon as possible, as much as possible, to developments that take place in the world economy. What kind of economic policy do we follow in this situation? We must maintain the solvency of the country. We simply cannot do anything else, there is no choice here. If we want to ensure the continuity of production and -- considering its essence -- the maintenance of living standards, then solvency must be guarded. The other priority is the protection of living standards, with the addition that, where possible, we should try to improve living conditions. We cannot give this up as an objective even among the more difficult circumstances. We do not seek the solution in the raising of prices, or in the raising of loans. We have to seek the solution in the improvement of production and management. We must learn to manage more efficiently.

Another means is the continuation of the economic reform. We do not want to introduce a new economic reform but want to further develop the economic management system which was introduced in 1968 and which, in its essential elements, has proved itself in practice, in other words, to adjust it to international economic conditions that have changed since 1968, and to the internal economic conditions.

We claculate that the income of the population -- including everything -- will stay on last year's level. Wages and social policy: It will grow about 8 percent and this is equivalent to the 7-8 percent price increase that we are exposed to this year as well. Out of this, 3 per cent is roughly the central price increase. The overwhelming majority of the central price increases are behind us. This particular price increase in January, at the end of that month, almost reaches that approximately 3 percent price rise with which the plan is calculated. We should also take into account that we lose out on the subsidy as well, if it is large scale, because there is less money left for wages, social policies, and many other things that are necessary. It belongs here also, of course, that this type of price support -- I speak now about excessive price supporting -- is deeply unjust, for the subsidy subsidizes consumption. The one consumes more, gets more out of the common share. The way out of this is not subsidizing consumption but, in our economic position, recognition of production and management. [end recording]

KUBIAK ON PARTY WORK, NATIONAL CONFERENCE

PM061404 Bialystok GAZETA WSPOLCZESNA in Polish 24 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Prof Hieronim Kubiak, PZPR Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Resolutions and Proposals Commission of the Ninth Extraordinary PZPR Congress, by Zygmunt Rola; date and place not given]

[Text] Rola: In a few weeks' time the delegates who were elected to the Ninth Extraordinary PZPR Congress will meet again at the national party conference. They must be already taking stock of how the resolution adopted by the congress has been translated into practical action.

Kubiak: The answer to your question is somewhat complex insofar as too little time has passed since then to allow for a comprehensive assessment. In the field of the actual legislation introduced, more has been done than in the periods following many earlier congresses. But in the area of activating our social energy potential there is still a lot to be done if we are to be able to accept the picture of Poland as portrayed in the legislative acts adopted and at the same time to live in accordance with these acts. To live with the necessary dose of optimism.

Rola: It would be useful to have a kind of list of both the achievements and the failures -- a list constituting a compendium of our information on the objective and subjective reasons for choosing certain particular methods of achieving the goals put forward in the ninth congress resolution.

Kubiak: The delegates will be given such an analysis. In any case, they are already submitting their answers in a specially designed opinion poll in which they are asked what, in their opinion, has been implemented and what has not; what were the reasons for the above; what has been done well; and what, according to them, deserves criticism so far as the realization of the goals is concerned. As far as I know, no previous national party conference has been prepared in this way.

Rola: Among other things, does the ninth congress resolution stipulate what is to be done to avoid future crises?

Kubiak: I do not believe there can be any single miraculous guarantee against them. The most important things here concern, above all else, the party itself, its mode of existence as a political movement within which there exists an exchange of arguments, and also a system of analyzing things and of forming a constantly updated synthesis of the knowledge ensuing from the analyses. They concern the party, which, by maintaining a lively internal ideological and political atmosphere, is also able to express the social unrest which it registers at its basic level, mostly -- but not exclusively -- in large industrial enterprises. The party, which not only proclaims justice, is also sensitive to what represents justice. A worker told me recently that when he takes a close look at his own work enterprise he can formulate the following conclusion: The self-government organization is there to manage the enterprise wisely and to make sure that production keeps increasing; the unions are there to share things out; and the party is concerned with justice. This is a most profound generalization.

If we in the party suceed in maintaining this kind of reflection on ourselves, on our reality, and on the method of carrying out our policy; if the party can avoid a repetition of the mistake of putting too broad an interpretation on criticism; if we are capable of distinguishing between criticism from a citizen who is concerned about the situation of his own country and criticism voiced by a representative of a different sociopolitical orientation -- all that will constitute a guarantee against returning to the old practices.

If we are capable of distinguishing between a situation where a person in a position of power is criticized because he deserves criticism and the simplistic view that to criticize a party member is tantamount to criticizing the party, or that to criticize a member of the government is to criticize the state, or again that to criticize a representative of our political leadership is equal to criticizing our whole sociopolitical system -- if we are capable of distinguishing between those situations, provided an authentic opportunity is offered to express social unrest through organizations existing within the framework of our sociopolitical system, then we can create a most effective guarantee against the return of practices which have been criticized.

Rola: Our citizens state, for example, that "the older order" is still going strong because they notice attempts at recreating former setups, an atmosphere of toadyism, schemes for currying favor, and the old set patterns of public speaking. . . .

Kubiak: These malpractices cannot be allowed to return at any level or link in the system of the execution of power. Such signals must not be ignored. The danger of "the old order" recurring does not spring mainly from the fact that somebody wants it to recur -- it consists in the fact that the old formulas exist as a "model" which automatically comes to mind and which is almost spontaneously repeated. The delegates to the approaching conference will in all probability be able to summon up enough courage to say an emphatic "No" to obsolete formulas. But also to anarchy, such as that manifested through strikes, and equally to demogoguery and to a chase after "innovatory moves." If we wish to activate the social energy potential in the Polish people -- and activate it we must -- then it is necessary to convince our citizens that saying "No" to anarchy means that we are at the same time saying "Yes" to changes that are desired by the party and by society, to changes that are feasible and will lead to the picture of Poland as we want it to be.

Rola: How does the party today fulfill its role as an intrasystem opposition directed against everything which hampers those desired changes? But let me ask you first what such an intrinsic opposition should be based on.

Kubiak: It should be based on the party setting out, of its own free will, to control all the results of the particular policy it pursues, that is, to check that the targets set out match the targets achieved. So that it would not have to get its information about any discrepancies from the street, from public feelings incensed by crises, or from the opposition, which is capable of transforming those crisis-inspired moods into its own strength. An answer to the question of how the party today fulfills its role as such an intrasystem opposition depends on the environment in which the party is active. Among workers, in work forces, a great deal has been done in that direction. The issue looks worse among the intelligentsia, and this is due, among other things, to the still widespread phenomenon of those people escaping into their own private concerns and to the fact that there are still too many prophets who believe that they and they alone carry the one and only truth. Among some intelligentsia groups certain unpopular subjects are not mentioned; they are expected to "settle" themselves, given enough time. But they will not settle themselves, and so it is necessary to talk, even if the arguments are painful -- as long as they are true. It requires courage to stand up against various phobias and against states of inertia. But if we are to be able to do it well instead of just preaching sermons (and, after all, no one likes these), then we must act according to Adam Polewka's motto: loving and hating at the same time. We need to know our own environment well, we need to understand it, and we must feel involved with it. Only then will our critical judgment of it sound true, and only then will it imply that we are also critical of ourselves.

Rola: Here we are touching on the issue of the party's ability to perform its leading role within the state and within society. Professor Jan Szczepanski, who is not a party member, has said that the decisive factor here is not repetition of formulas but the ability to really direct the behavior of the masses....

Kubiak: Jan Szczepanski is undoubtedly right.

Rola: To be able to direct effectively, however, one needs, among other things, to have at one's disposal an effective system for collecting and analyzing signals about all possible phenomena which may generate crises. What has been done in this area since the ninth congress?

Kubiak: What has been done is not insignificant. A decision was made to set up a system for surveying public opinion that would operate along independent channels. Representatives of party leadership move among the people on a day-to-day basis. Such meetings are doubly meaningful: The aim is not only to find an opportunity to tell the people something on behalf of the leadership but also to give those who take part in the meetings an opportunity to speak directly to those who take part in decisionmaking -- and, later, to have their chance to use their arguments to answer questions. This formula for dialogue is a very difficult one, but it must be continued.

Finally, a guarantee ensuring that the party really does discharge its leading functions is created by the parallel existence of such authentic social movements as the self-government system, the trade unions, or youth organizations -- as well as an intelligent presence of party members in these movements.

Rola: But do suitable mechanisms exist for making use of signals emerging from those sources?

Kubiak: Let me remind you that the great majority of recommendations and opinions submitted, by nonparty people among others, were voiced by party members at the preparatory meetings preceding the congress as well as during the congress itself and in its resolutions. This was possible because, contrary to some people's beliefs, the party is firmly rooted in society, remains a part of society, and is composed of people who can boast different experience, different temperaments and personalities, different ways of thinking, different stores of knowledge and different paths of life. It is a party whose people are united by a common idea: that for Poland socialism is not a historical necessity which has been thrust upon us, but a CHOICE [uppercase word published, double-spaced] which offers a tremendous opportunity for our nation.

It is, however, necessary to distinguish between the infeasibility of implementing every single recommendation and the lack of any reaction to that recommendation. There are many reasons why not all of them can be realized. But then people need to be told and persuaded that their recommendations are either wrong or -- owing to a lack of means -- not feasible at that moment. If we want to realize any of these wishes we need not only to be aware of it and to know how to do it but also TO BE ABLE [uppercase words published double-spaced] to do it. Mere "wishful thinking" is not enough here.

Rola: Even the best program is liable to be modified by life itself. What changes should be introduced in our party practice to add to and improve the ninth congress resolution?

Kubiak: Contrary to appearances, the resolution has few features generated by the situation prevalent in 1981. Most of its content arose from reflection over our political process after World War II. That is why the rate at which that document becomes invalidated by the passage of time is only slight.

I cannot look into the future, and I simply wish to speak as one of the delegates. I believe that the conference will conclude with the following decision: No backsliding when it comes to the resolutions taken by the congress -- and that it will attempt to find more effective ways of implementing those.

Rola: Will it be a meeting of victors?

Kubiak: I remember a similar conference after the 1970 crisis. Soon after those events it was stated that we finally knew what to do and how to do it, that we had got hold of a miraculous mechanism for achieving success, and that, consequently, we no longer needed any analyses of the actual reality or any criticial assessments; all that was needed was to concentrate on that miraculous self-propelling mechanism for achieving success. I believe that the situation will be different during our March conference. Delegates who took part in the ninth congress still remember the reasons and the circumstances in which their resolutions were adopted, and they remember the obligations they placed before the party and before themselves. They will now be presented with a full list of pledges which have been realized, together with an index of all the resolutions passed -- all this in order to be able to answer fully the questions: "Was it intended to be like this? Are all the consequences of actions taken by us accepted? Would it have been possible to avoid some of these consequences and to expedite some of the desirable changes? Perhaps some things were introduced too hastily"?

And so it is not going to be a conference of those who have won but a meeting of people who think about their common reality. Who think without complexes.

Rola: Thank you for talking to me.

CZYREK DISCUSSES PARTY IDEOLOGICAL PROGRAM

LD081613 Warsaw PAP in English 1423 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Warsaw 8 March -- Interviewed by a PAP journalist, Political Bureau member and PUWP secretary, head of the CC Ideological Commission Jozef Szyrek described the role of the commission in the party's efforts to keep its ideological policy closely in tune with the demands of life. Excerpts:

"The commission analyzed the main political and ideological issues, and after Dec. 1981, regularly considered those ideological aspects which ensued from the needs of the political struggle going on in Poland. Special attention went to the mass media, their role in that struggle and effective counteracting increased attacks against socialism by its home opponents and by foreign centres for ideological subversion.

"An important current in the commission's debates were the ideological and programmatic guidelines for the celebrations of the centenary of the Polish working-class movement, with special emphasis put on the role the movement has played in the history of the nation and the country.

"The commission has also worked out the outlines and programme of the 1st nationwide party ideological and theoretical conference held in April 1982.

"We are now awaiting the party national conference of delegates to the 9th extraordinary congress, which is going to be a vitally important point in the life of the party, as it will assess the road traversed by the party since the 9th extraordinary congress and what the party has done over that difficult period.

"Of special importance will be an assessment of the party's ideological strength and activity, as well as the ideological and political influence it has in the nation.

"The conference will vote on the adoption of the declaration by the national conference of delegates, headlined 'What we are fighting for and where we are heading', prepared in the course of a wide consultation process within the party.

"It will also review initial documents to be used in formulating the party's long-term strategy. They confirm that in consolidating its ranks and consistently following the line of the 9th congress, the party has not been staying with just solving the complex problems of today, but has been reaching ahead with its programme, and continues to work on shaping up the perspectives of Poland's socialist development.

"The ideological team, one of some dozen task teams at the conference, will probably concentrate on the issues pertaining to the above mentioned programatic documents, to assessment of the achievements of People's Poland over the 40 years of its existence, the role and position of intelligentsia in the creation and working of the socialist superstructure in the process of Poland's socialist development, lay culture and education, and improvement of the work of mass media in Poland, among other things.

"We hope that the conference will become a new incentive which will stimulate the party's activity in all fields, including ideology", Jozef Czyrek said.

MOKRZYSZCZAK INTERVIEWED ON PARTY ACTIONS

LD091043 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 8 Mar 84

[From the "Panorama" program; interview of Wlodzimierz Mokrzyszczak, PZPR Central Committee secretary, by Budapest radio correspondent Andras Domany on current "processes" in the PZPR; in Warsaw, date and time not given; recorded -- Mokrzyszczak speaks in Polish with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text] [Mokrzyszczak] I think that the PZPR's basic organizations and organs were helped to become stronger by the fact that we work out our decisions very democratically at all levels. It is sufficient here to say that before any Central Committee plenary session we organize group briefing discussions. When we meet, the comrades know what the agenda is going to be and what kind of plenary session is being prepared. We distribute the theses in advance and for 2 days we discuss these theses with groups of Central Committee members here in Warsaw. We make modifications on the basis of the members' contributions and comments. Therefore, I can say that when a decision is made after the second debate at the Central Committee session, it is really a decision made by the Central Committee's entire membership.

[Domany] That the Central Committee is active is obvious, but has the passivity in basic party organizations ceased?

[Mokrzyszczak] The situation is that this has entirely ceased in the plants, in the large party organizations. We still have problems with this in the smaller party organizations.

[Domany] For example, in the countryside?

[Mokrzyszczak] In the countryside there are generally only these smaller basic organizations. Naturally, the negative experiences that came out in and were confirmed by this present campaign resulted in the formation of appropriate tasks and conclusions, which will be applicable in the future. This is exactly the activity that can attract new members.

[Domany] During recent years more people left or were expelled than were newly recruited.

[Mokrzyszczak] Yes, this is the situation.

[Domany] What is the situation at present?

[Mokrzyszczak] We are slowly approaching a balance. The cleansing of the party is still in progress and will continue. This is our great endeavor, for what is at stake here is that the party should be ideologically unified and the stands taken by party members must be unequivocal and exemplary. Therefore, numbers have been reduced and this will continue on the basis of expulsion resolutions by basic organizations or appropriate party organs. On the other hand, our intention is that the party should become younger, that we should gain new applicants for membership.

In the course of the reporting period we have observed a fluctuation of membership. Well, in 3 and 1/2 months party organs expelled nearly 7,000 members. But in this same period 5,000 new party members were taken on. The latter does not fully compensate for the reduction, because the work is very difficult. But those who entered now know that they have entered the party not for glory or success but to undertake hard work in the interests of the entire society. On the other hand, this makes these new membership aspirants all the more valuable. Observing the admission of young people and the party's growth month by month -- and more than 50 percent of them are young workers, which is particularly important and valuable for us -- I can say that sometime in the middle of next year a balance will be established.

The party still is not small in numbers, since it numbers nearly 2.2 million members and candidate members. And it is not our intention to expand it greatly. However, we attend to the continuous inflow of fresh blood, and this is how it must be with every party organ and basic organization.

[Domany] The party accountability-election meetings concluded recently. Three years ago, when the Ninth Extraordinary PZPR Congress was being prepared for, these conferences were very stormy. There was true democracy, although with the exaggerations...

[Mokrzyszczak, interrupts] With anarchy...

[Domany, interrupts] ...With that too. However, it seems that these conferences have become calmer. Has the democracy experienced in 1981 nevertheless been preserved?

[Mokrzyszczak] It has been preserved and preserved fully. What the party has achieved will never be allowed to be lost. However, in 1983, or 1983-84, the party is more clever because of those experiences, which often were negative. Why was there a lot of noise in the election period before the Ninth congress? There was a fight over the procedure, the method of election, and all this took place at the conferences. There were shouts, protests, and various incidental issues that in the end were not of substance. Now we have worked out the election rules in consultation with the entire party. Thus, we arranged this entire procedure previously, and we devote the period and time of the conferences themselves exclusively to serious debates of substance -- and within this to critical debates.

[Domany] I understand that more time should be spent on issues of substance. As for the elections, where at present there has been only one candidate nearly everywhere, for example for voivodship first secretary there...

[Mokrzyszczak -- interrupting] No there were several candidates in five voivodships.

[Domany] However, generally the former first secretaries were elected. Does this not mean that, in the eyes of public opinion, there were no other candidates?

[Mokrzyszczak] In the first place, one cannot say everywhere, because five voivodships had more than one candidate. There were two in four voivodships, and four in one voivodship. However, why one candidate?

The rules do not stipulate that there must be one: They state that there should be as many as you want. The conferences decide the method by which the first secretaries are elected and how many candidates there should be. The majority chose this form so what could we have done? Still, I do not preclude that, during the next election for example, some of the committees might follow the examples of the five voivodships that elected from several candidates this year.

[Domany] In the sequence of experiences of accountability party conferences, what can be said about the various debates in progress in the party? At one time there were some almost liquidator [likvidator] groups, which opposed democratic centralism. On the other side, there were the so-called hard-heads -- that is, the factional groups. They were very visible in 1981. Have there been signs of such groups lately, or have they ceased to exist?

[Mokrzyszczak] No, they did not appear in any phase during the campaign. There were no such signs, either, in the basic organizations or at the voivodship conferences. In the ideological sense, our party is unified. The ideological thread was present in the debate and -- what I especially take pleasure in -- workers spoke on this topic, and not at all infrequently. It is natural that this should be debated among the party intelligentsia, but the participation of the workers in the debate on ideological issues is very important for the party, and I am very glad to see this.

The other group of topics in the debate pertained to issues of everyday life -- economic issues, particularly involving the workshops. Concern was expressed about the enterprises: What can be expected in further development, in production? What are the earnings like? How will they live? This, too, made up an important part of the debate within the party.

And, naturally, there was concern over the unity and further strengthening of the party. The party members remember well the weakness of the party, and now they work hard so that the party will be strong and unified, so that, guided by the resolutions of the ninth congress and the succeeding Central Committee sessions, it will progress in one direction. This has appeared very sharply in the debate.

[Domany] In March, at the national party conference, the 1,600 delegates of the ninth congress will take part, with the exception of 100 who, for various reasons, will not be there. For various reasons -- some of them have returned their membership books and some the party has expelled from its ranks. But the majority will be present. What can be expected of the conference?

[Mokrzyszczak] In the first place, we who were entrusted with the leadership of the party by the ninth congress expect the conference to take a stance on the state of implementation of the congress resolutions. In my conviction, the conference must evaluate whether we are implementing the congress resolutions correctly or in an unsatisfactory manner. This comes first.

But I think that the determination of directions of work for the second half of the period will be even more important, so that prior to the 10th congress we can stand in front of the delegates with a clean conscience, having endeavored and accomplished the maximum.

GOVERNMENT WINNING VICTORY IN NEW TRADE UNIONS

PM091541 Paris LE FIGARO in French 8 Mar 84 p 4

[Bernard Margueritte dispatch: "Poland: The Official Trade Unions Have Taken Off at Last"]

[Text] Warsaw -- Even if you regard as overoptimistic the recent report on the situation in Poland (submitted to the UN Human Rights Commission), which expresses the view that "the spirit of moderation" shown by the Polish leadership is "extremely encouraging in all respects," there is at least one sphere in which the impartial observer must note that the government is winning a decisive and rather unexpected victory: that of the creation of the new trade union movement.

When Deputy Prime Minister Rakowski drew up the broad outlines of trade union policy 18 months ago, it was often received, both in the country and abroad, with outbursts of fury or, at best, with gibes. What is the position now? There are 83 branch federations that have more than 4 million trade unionists, of which 60 percent are workers. Very recently the leaders of 53 federations created a "college of chairmen," -- a kind of platform to coordinate the various branches.

The very way in which that body was formed is very revealing. Those concerned are making the greatest efforts to show that their "college" is in no way a "confederation." Chairmanship of it rotates and voting is secret and not binding on the various federations. Zbigniew Kowalski, deputy chairman of the metallurgy trade unions, stated: "I understand those who, after the bad experiences of the past, are afraid of creating a 'higher' body. That reminds them of the former trade unions."

Responsibility and Realism

Slowly but surely, therefore, the trade union's membership is increasing. More than one-third of the workers have now joined it. This proportion is already much higher than in France. This success is undoubtedly partly due to the material advantages that result from trade union membership. But it is also undoubtedly the result of two factors:

1 -- The new trade union movement is finding its own style and asserting its independence from the government.

2 -- The authorities and the trade unionists are establishing a partnership at all levels.

Indeed the new trade union movement stands out as much for its responsibility and its realism as for its ardent defense of its members' interests. It is calling on the workers to take account of the situation before making their demands, and is making them realize that their standard of living depends primarily on their efforts in the enterprises and the reduction of waste and costs. At the same time, however, it defends the workers extremely energetically when it thinks certain government decisions undermine its position. The most recent example was the trade unions' fierce opposition to the recent price increases.

It goes without saying that this attitude, which prompted TRYBUNA LUDU to say "a critical partner has appeared on the sociopolitical stage, defending its independence and autonomy," does a great deal to increase the prestige of these new trade unionists of which one-third were formerly Solidarity members.

In fact the policy of "partnership" is being built at three levels:

1 -- the enterprise: There has been some friction here, some managers treating the trade union with a degree of disdain. Central government was forced to intervene and 3,300 managers of big enterprises had to attend "training" courses "relating to the trade unions' powers." Everything must be decided by the management-trade union-self-management triad. That does not concern only conditions of work or social questions; even the plan for the enterprise, whose autonomy was increased by the reform, cannot henceforth be drawn up without the trade union's agreement.

2 -- the branch: The various ministries have to negotiate collective conventions with the trade union federations which correspond to their department. That will be done in 1984. On all matters affecting the workers there must be prior discussions between the ministries and the trade union federations.

3 -- the state: Trade unionists are going to enter the Socioeconomic Council, the price committee, and the commission for the reform. The recent joint meeting of the party Politburo and the Government Presidium devoted to trade union questions (with the participation of federation representatives) decided that this year trade unionists would help draft the 5-year plan, the 1985 economic plan, policy in the sphere of construction, and improvements to the reform.

Of course, nobody is claiming that all the problems have been solved. At the meeting of the first secretaries of the big enterprises, it was pointed out that "the systematic increase in the number of trade unionists is not a painless process. The party has to explain many questions and combat prejudices. The hostile stances of the political underground also often have to be opposed." The trade unionists themselves admit in the press that "there is still distrust among a section of the staff" and they criticize, in a fairly symbolic way, party members' "inadequate activity" in the new trade union movement.

In any case, the latter's development is very characteristic of the path which Poland is beginning to take: Of course these trade unions could never make people forget Solidarity's noble enthusiasm and dreams. On the other hand, their development and their role as partners of the government give them an influence which trade unions do not have in any other socialist country and contribute greatly to the democratization of the system itself.

MINING COMMISSION, EMPLOYEES DISCUSS RESULTS

LD102232 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The Ministry of Mining and Power Industry and its organizational units, associations, collieries, and other enterprises have attained considerable economic and social results, it was stated at a meeting of employees of the mining and power industries who will take part in the national conference of the PZPR and the Mining Commission of the PZPR Central Committee. However, not all objectives mapped out by the resolutions of the ninth extraordinary plenum and the tenth plenum of the party Central Committee have been implemented in full. For example, the planned results in the extraction of oil and gas have not been attained. Progress in reducing the exploitation of fuels on a national scale has not been attained to a satisfactory extent either.

Jerzy Romanik, chairman of the Mining Commission, who chaired the deliberations, presented a report on its activities since October 1981 and announced that a fundamental evaluation of the implementation of the saving programs in all enterprises and ministries will be carried out shortly.

CZECHOWICZ CHAIRS YOUTH COMMISSION SESSION

LD092023 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] An assessment of the situation among students at high schools was on the agenda of yet another working meeting of the Youth Commission of the PZPR Central Committee, in Warsaw. Documentation on the subject was prepared by the socialist youth unions and by the Ministry of Education and Upbringing. Those present spoke about, among other things, a better shaping of the sociopolitical situation in schools. Social activeness by an appreciable part of young people has increased, and students' self-government is gaining momentum. The same is true of youth organizations. However, it was stressed that some young people continue to experience moral dilemmas. They are mistrustful, critical, and seek authority. In this connection much attention was devoted to the functioning of schools, implementation by teachers not only of didactic targets but also those related to upbringing.

The discussion was chaired by Tadeusz Czechowicz, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Lodz party committee.

PUBLIC ORDER REPRESENTATIVES DISCUSS CRIME RATE

LD102238 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] A regional meeting of representatives of public order, prosecution and administration of justice bodies from Ciechanow, Lodz, Ostroleka, Plock, Siedlce, Skierniewice and Warsaw Voivodships was devoted to an assessment of security and public order and to discussing the tasks leading to more effective consolidation of the rule of law. It was pointed out that last year over 446,000 offenses were recorded, 7 percent more than in 1982. The number of robberies, burglaries, and theft particularly increased. It was pointed out that Warsaw Voivodship, for example, has for years been that in which the threat of crime is the greatest. The crime factor per 100,000 inhabitants is almost twice as high here as in other voivodships. It was stated that this situation must change without delay, that this process should become the main test of the credibility of state authority, and that the authorities should adopt programs to set the homeland in order.

MEETING SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS GARWOLIN 'INCIDENT'

NC092159 Paris AFP in English 2122 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Garwolin, Poland, March 9 (AFP) -- Vigorous local protests over the removal of crucifixes from a school mushroomed into a national issue today as Church sources said top-level Church and state officials scheduled a meeting to discuss the incident. Minister of Religious Affairs Adam Lopatka will meet tomorrow with Episcopal Secretary Bronislaw Dabrowski in Warsaw, Church officials said here. Meanwhile, the suffragan bishop of Warsaw, Jerzy Dabrowski, came to this town 70 kms (45 miles) southeast of Warsaw to meet with the parish priest.

The incident started earlier this week when students in the village of Mietne 5 kms (3 milies) from here occupied their school after authorities removed the crucifixes. The 2-day occupation Tuesday and Wednesday was followed by a school boycott strongly backed by the local population, which has circulated petitions asking for the restitution of the crosses. The petitions have gathered more than 10,000 signatures.

The authorities countered by asking parents to sign pledges that they will respect the secular character of the schools and end the boycott or their children will face possible academic retribution in next June's exams. Church officials said few families had signed the pledges.

Tonight, at a mass that drew 3,000 faithful, the local priest warned that "the improvement of the situation in Poland is impossible without the cross." Now, he said, "there will be more youths asking more often why there are no crucifixes in schools and factories." "Poland," he said, "must remain faithful to Christ and to the Gospel, and the crucified Christ addresses His message through this cross which we must defend at any cost." He also urged parents not to sign the government pledges.

WALESA CALLS FOR WORKERS' SELF-HELP, COOPERATION

LD091916 Hamburg DPA in German 1808 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Warsaw, 9 Mar (DPA) -- In view of the continuing economic crisis in Poland and the "uncontrolled and unrestricted" power of the party and state apparatus, Polish workers' leader Lech Walesa has called for self-help among the population. In a working paper covering 4 and 1/2 typewritten pages, which was sent to Western journalists today, the population is encouraged to exercise "practical solidarity", which would have to be practised for many years in order "to become good custodians of the common good."

Walesa's program, which is dated 7 March and which came into being in cooperation with unnamed trade union activists and experts, proposes active participation by the workers in the workers' own administrative bodies in the factories, which still largely function in their old form. Existing cooperatives and private trades and firms also offered the opportunity for independence, the creation of new jobs and better provision of the market.

The statement describes the foundation for private farmers planned by the Church as an important initiative for the future of Polish agriculture and the feeding of the population. The foundation could become an important factor in the development of "strong and independent farm economies". Walesa himself made his Nobel Peace Prize, worth 1.5 million Swedish krona, available for this foundation.

GLEMP TO RETURN FROM LATIN AMERICA VISIT 12 MAR

LD120923 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0200 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Primate of Poland Jozef Glemp is to return to Warsaw today after ending his 3-week pastoral visit to Brazil and Argentina. During his stay in Latin America the cardinal met Poles living there and the Brazilian and Argentinian Episcopates. On his return voyage, the cardinal stopped over in Rome for a few days.

CEAUSESCU CHAIRS RCP EXECUTIVE BODY MEETING

AU091726 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1655 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 9/3/1984 -- A meeting of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP was held on March 9 under the chairmanship of RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu which analysed a report on the results of the domestic animals census taken on February 1, 1984, as well as a report on the results of the control over the development of livestock over February 1, 1983-February 1, 1984. It was considered that the situation in the field of livestock was good, the number of animals of all basic species, of breeding stock included, in agriculture as a whole being larger, which provides conditions for a continuous rise in livestock in the years to come, in keeping with plan provisions, as well as for the implementation of the programme for farmfood produce self-sufficiency.

The recently taken census showed the largest increases with pigs, sheep and cattle as compared to the annual growths registered over 1950-1983. According to census data, the growths were of more than 506,000 cattle, 1,702,900 pigs, 1,701,600 sheep and goats, as well as over 8,190,000 poultry. Furthermore, substantial growths were recorded with rabbits and bees. The Executive Political Committee also noted that although important achievements have been scored as to the 1983 census, the livestock level set under the plan and special programmes for the development of animal breeding has not been attained and requested that all the necessary measures and actions should be taken to reach the level set under the plan, to strengthen order and discipline as concerns the observance of the laws on the registration, circulation, sale and slaughtering of animals.

The Executive Political Committee also analysed a report on the number, composition and organizational structure of the RCP on December 31, 1983. It was requested that that report should be substantially improved so that it more palpably mirrors all the facets of the organizational and political-educational activity carried out by party bodies and organizations last year. At the same time, a report was discussed and approved on the activity carried out in 1983 by party and state bodies and mass organizations for the implementation of the RCP cadre policy.

During the meeting, a report was also discussed on the international activity of the RCP and the Romanian state in 1983 and the foreign policy guidelines for 1984. It was considered that that report too should be improved so that it should more comprehensively reflect the broad activity carried on by the RCP and the Romanian state on an international plane, Romania's assessments and constructive stances on the major problems of the current political life, the contribution made to the development of international collaboration and cooperation, to the strengthening of the relations with the communist and workers' parties, with the other democratic, progressive parties and forces, with all the peoples of the world in the fight for social progress, security and peace.

The Executive Political Committee decided that after having been correspondingly amended all the three documents should be submitted to the plenary meeting of the CC of the RCP for approval.

The Executive Political Committee called the plenary meeting of the CC of the RCP in the last decade of March.

SPILJAK RECEIVES AUSTRIAN JOURNALISTS 9 MARCH

LD091925 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1617 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Belgrade, March 9 (TANJUG) -- Presidency of Yugoslavia President Mika Spiljak, who is to visit Austria shortly, received a group of Austrian journalists here today (Friday). Spiljak underlined the good relationship between neighbouring Yugoslavia and Austria and their desire to further relations in all domains. Spiljak also spoke about the economic and political situation in Yugoslavia and topical questions of international relations.

SAWPY'S ROZIC MEETS WITH CYPRUS PARTY LEADER

LD091814 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1610 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Nicosia, March 9 (TANJUG) -- Marjan Rozic, member of the Yugoslav Socialist Alliance leadership, met here today, Friday, with Vassos Lissaridhis, chairman of the Unified Democratic Union of Cyprus, EDEK.

In the ensuing talk, cooperation between the EDEK and the Yugoslav Socialist Alliance and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia was assessed positively and it was stated that all conditions exist for its deepening and expanding in accordance with friendly relations of the peoples of Yugoslavia and Cyprus. Rozic and Lissaridhis also discussed preparations for the Mediterranean conference of democratic and socialist oriented parties and movements to be held at the end of June in Belgrade. Lissaridhis informed the Yugoslav delegation on his party's views regarding the Cypriot problem and the ways for its settlement.

Rozic, who heads the Yugoslav Socialist Alliance delegation, arrived in Cyprus yesterday, to attend the 4th congress of the EDEK Party beginning this evening in Nicosia.

MILATOVIC ENDS LATIN AMERICAN TOUR 10 MAR

LD101015 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0925 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City, March 10 (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav party Central Committee Presidency [as received] member Veljko Milatovic left Mexico today (Saturday) at the end of a tour of Latin American countries. Before Mexico, he visited Nicaragua, Panama, Ecuador and Peru.

During his three-day stay in Mexico, Milatovic had talks with the leadership of the ruling Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI) and representatives of Mexican leftist parties with which the League of Communists of Yugoslavia maintains relations. He also met Mexican Internal Minister Manuel Bartlet Diaz.

Yesterday evening Milatovic had a meeting here with officials of the Salvadoran Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR). They acquainted him with the situation in their country and prospects of a peaceful termination of the four-year-old civil war in El Salvador.

PRISTINA BOMBED ON ALBANIAN NATIONALIST TRIENNIAL

NC091629 Paris AFP in English 1611 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Belgrade, March 9 (AFP) -- A large bomb shook the centre of Pristina, capital of Yugoslavia's Kosovo Province last night, police in Pristina said today. The blast came on the eve of the third anniversary of Albanian nationalist demonstrations which erupted in the province on March 11, 1981, and in which 11 people died. Police said the bomb shattered windows of a large store but said there were no casualties.

RECENT EXPLOSIONS 'AGAINST ALBANIAN NATIONALITY'

AU102100 Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The recent explosions in Djakovica and Pristina, which are undoubtedly the obscene work of the class enemy and the sworn enemies of Yugoslavia, of unity and coexistence, of brotherhood, and of the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo, are clear proof that the dregs of the enemy are still present in our midst, despite the obvious results attained in the struggle against Albanian nationalism and irredentism in Kosovo and elsewhere.

These two explosions, directed mainly against cadres of Albanian nationality and intended to achieve an external psychological effect and to increase tension, and the isolated presence of the enemies of our country's order and system, who were immediately captured by our organs of pursuit, prove that the class enemy has lost the game and therefore has no other alternative than to rip off his false mask and identify himself completely with the coordinated activity carried out by extremist terrorist organizations in the world, particularly in Western Europe.

Logically linking these two explosions with the recent Geneva demonstrations by representatives of extremist Albanian emigrees in Western Europe, as well as with attempts to internationalize the alleged problem of Kosovo and the question of the Albanian nationality in Yugoslavia -- a question for which official Tirana sets the tone -- progressive opinion in the province and in the country as a whole, particularly the overwhelming majority of those of Albanian nationality, will not find it difficult to reach a conclusion on what sinister plans confront us in this case and on who is responsible for this and other similar hostile acts directed against the stabilization of the situation in this area and essentially against the fundamental and vital interests of the Albanian nationality in our country. If we add to this the timing of the coordinated attempts represented by these hostile actions, which are intended to recall a provocative anniversary, we will be even more clear in our minds as to who stands behind these reactionary and shameless efforts to increase tension in this area. Their field of action having been increasingly narrowed, the class enemies from the ranks of the Albanian nationality, not being choosy in their ways and means, and carrying out the orders of their masters, have not hesitated in their latest tactics to use violence and explosives, thus endangering the lives of citizens. Thus, the enemies are showing their true features and are placing themselves in the category of extremist terrorists, against whom all progressive mankind is fighting. Since they have lost the game and since the ground is shaking under their feet, the false fighters for the supposed national rights of Albanians are showing their true features and are presenting themselves to our public opinion, as well as to the world public, without their masks, which they had worn for years on end, particularly since the hostile and counterrevolutionary demonstrations [in 1981] from positions of Albanian nationalism and irredentism.

Explosions, threats, blackmail, and even the most severe actions of the class enemy, particularly those from the ranks of the Albanian nationality, will not move or intimidate the nations and nationalities of our land, particularly the Albanian nationality, which will continue to resolutely remain on the course of the LCY and on Tito's road.

On the contrary, these and other similar actions will strengthen the ranks of all nationalities' unity and the mutual confidence of all nations and nationalities, and will deepen brotherhood, unity, and the sense of community of the Albanians, Serbs, Montenegrins, Turks, Moslems, and others who are part of this community, in the determined and uncompromising struggle against all enemies, and currently against Albanian nationalism and irredentism, whose intention is to divide and to destroy the constitutional order in our country. The common struggle of the Albanian and other peoples in this area against the enemy in World War II is an additional guarantee of this. The struggle to build socialism and effect socialist self-management and the decisive involvement of the Albanian nationality in favor of the course of the LCY and Tito's road, these being prerequisites for general national and social prosperity which have been verified so many times in our practice, are [words indistinct].

Therefore, the recent explosions in Pristina and Djakovica represent an attack against unity, coexistence, and brotherhood, and against all our victories and the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo. They represent an attack against the determination of the Albanian nationality and against its historic interests and intentions in Tito's Yugoslavia. These two explosions prove the great misery in which the class enemy from the ranks of the Albanian nationality has sunk. Having lost all [word indistinct] from its hands, the enemy is making his last irredentist and terrorist efforts. These attacks by the class enemy against our property and our people are therefore not a proof of his strength, but of his weakness and despair.

ETHNIC ALBANIANS SENTENCED FOR HOSTILE ACTIVITY

AU091041 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 7 Mar 84 p 8

[I.K. report]

[Text] Prizren, 8 Mar -- The Prizren District Court today sentenced seven irredentists from the village of Randobrava for hostile activity and for disparaging our country's reputation. Nijazi Pajaziti, 20, Resad Mustafa, 26, and Nahit Hasani, 19, were sentenced to 3 and 1/2 years imprisonment each; Bebus Bajrami, 20, to 1 and 1/2 years imprisonment; Nedzib Salja, 20, to 1 year of imprisonment; Hajrulah Krueziju, 22, to 8-months imprisonment; and juvenile K.B. to 2 years and 8 months imprisonment. During the period April 1981 to May 1983, they wrote hostile slogans and distributed hostile pamphlets, and on 29 November last year they broke into the primary school in the village of Randobrana and took away the state flag and a picture of Comrade Tito. They burned the flag and profaned Tito's picture.

TURKISH AMBASSADOR'S ASSASSINS SENTENCED

AU111502 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1830 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Belgrade, March 9 (TANJUG) -- Haroutioun Levonian and Raffi Elbakian, the two Lebanese citizens of Armenian nationality accused of assassinating Turkish Ambassador to Yugoslavia Galip Balkar, were pronounced guilty here today, Friday, and sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment each.

The Belgrade District Court convicted Levonian of killing Ambassador Balkar on March 9, [word indistinct] and attempting to kill retired Army Colonel Slobodan Brajovic. The co-defendant, Raffi Elbakian, was convicted of seriously wounding the ambassador's driver Necati Kaja and killing student Zeljko Milivojevic. After serving their sentences, they will be expelled from Yugoslavia.

The court did not agree with the prosecution's qualification that the acts were committed out of "ruthless vengeance" and considered that Levonian and Elbakian acted in accordance with an established detailed plan and the aims of the organisation they belong to. In a motivation of the verdict the court said that although they showed singular persistence and resolve in carrying out the act, the act itself contained elements of reprisal rather than those of vengeance.

The court maintained that the charges had been proved except in the case of slightly wounding Zorica Zolotic. In view of her statement and the nature of the wound she sustained on the occasion, the court could not determine whether the wound was originally caused by a gun bullet.

In passing the verdict, the court could not be guided by causes of the historical conflict between Turkey and the Armenians, notwithstanding endeavours by the defence and the defendants.

We have established all the facts necessary to perceive the personalities of the defendants, but this court is neither competent nor authorised to act outside the bounds of the indictment, stated presiding judge of the five-judge panel, Tomica Sekularac. "Irrespective of the defendants' ideals, they lost at the time of the assassination attack all criteria of the value of human life and, within less than five minutes, sowed death" in the streets of Belgrade, the motivation statement said.

In deciding on the sentence, the court took into account the facts that co-defendant Elbakian was a minor adult at the time of the assassination attack and that chief defendant Levonian was himself wounded in it.

Today, on the anniversary of death of student Zeljko Milivojevic, a commemorative meeting was held at the Belgrade University's Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. Later, wreaths and bouquets were laid on the spot in the Tasmajdan Park where Milivojevic was killed.

PRESIDIUM NOMINATES NEW MACEDONIAN LC OFFICIALS

AU092112 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] The Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Macedonia has adopted a proposal that Milan Pancevski be nominated as a candidate for president of the Central Committee of the LC of Macedonia, and Jakov Lazarovski for secretary. The communal organizations of the LC of Macedonia will express thier opinion on these nominations.

BRIEFS

TRIPARTITE AGREEEMENT EXTENDED -- Cairo, March 11 (TANJUG) -- A protocol which extends the validity of the tripartite economic cooperation agreement of Yugoslavia, Egypt, and India for the next five years was signed in Cairo today. Judging by provisions of the protocol, during the coming period tripartite cooperation, set up in 1967, will get a new quality as it will cover in addition to trade, industrial cooperation, joint production and financing. The new protocol enlarges commodity lists, on which preferentials will be applied, by about 100 articles the lists have so far covered about 1,000 articles. [Excerpt] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 1946 GMT 11 Mar 84 LD]

COAL DEPOSITS DISCOVERED -- The Ljubljana Geological Institute and the Titovo Velenje Combined Enterprise for Mining and Energy have discovered thick deposits of coal near Lendava in Prekomurje. The deposits are 50 to 250 meters below surface. According to the Titovo Velenje Combined Enterprise for Mining and Energy, which is responsible for the program of exploitation, it is expected that the first tons of coal will be extracted from these deposits as early as 1990. [Text] [Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 8 Mar 84 LD]